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CONTADORA MINISTERS HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE

PA230046 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2112 GMT 22 Jul 85

[Press conference held by Contadora Group Foreign Ministers Jorge Abadia Arias of Panama, Simon Alberto Consalvi of Venezuela, Bernardo Sepulveda Amor of Mexico, and Augusto Ramirez Ocampo of Colombia held in the Presidential Room of the Omar Torrijos Herrera International Airport in Panama City -- live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Abadia] ...Regarding an interesting topic, such as peace and peaceful coexistence. As you have frequently commented, the current deterioration of the Central American situation and the increase of tension in this region so dear to us is evident. However, the Contadora Group has risen above the difficulties posed by this deterioration and has carried out 2 days of strenuous talks and difficult negotiations to produce a document which is a testimony of faith and hope for this convulsed area.

We want to publicly express the gratitude of the Republic of Panama to the people and Government of Mexico represented here by their Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor, toward the government and people of Colombia represented here by our distinguished friend Augusto Ramirez Ocampo, and to the government and people of Venezuela represented here by Simon Alberto Consalvi. We publicly recognize their extraordinary work and the tremendous efforts that, together with Panama, they have conducted, making it possible to present to Latin America and the world a document, a communique outlining what the Contadora Group will do and produce from now on.

On previous occasions we have said that the difficulties that the Contadora Group has had to face on its path, instead of discouraging us, have encouraged us to move forward in our efforts to bring peace and peaceful coexistence to this very dear and convulsed area. Today we will be giving you a press communique which is the result of the efforts made by our four countries, their peoples and governments, on that path and in that direction. We will ask Mexican Foreign Secretary Sepulveda Amor to comment briefly on the document, and then we will have a period for questions and answers, during which the four foreign ministers will be glad to answer your inquiries. Prior to the question-and-answer period, and following Foreign Secretary Sepulveda's statement, a Foreign Ministry official will read the document summarizing the results of this meeting of the Contadora Group foreign ministers. We thank you for your interest, and now let's proceed.

[Sandra Montenegro, Foreign Ministry official] Good afternoon, dear journalists. I will now read the communique issued by the Contadora Group foreign ministers:

The Colombian, Mexican, Panamanian, and Venezuelan foreign ministers met on Contadora Island on 21-22 July 1985 with the purpose of evaluating, in light of the recent incidents in the Central American area, the current status of the process of negotiations promoted by their governments since January 1983; promoting measures leading to the establishment or perfecting of democratic, representative, and pluralist systems; promoting actions for national conciliation in those cases where there are profound divisions within society; creating the political conditions necessary to guarantee the security, integrity and sovereignty of the Central American states; halting the arms race; banning the installation of foreign military bases, or any other form of foreign military intervention in the area; reducing, with the intention of eliminating, the presence of foreign military advisers; preventing and eliminating illegal arms trafficking; preventing the use of territory for military or logistical support aimed at destabilizing governments in the region; giving attention to the problems caused by the flow of refugees; implementing economic and social development plans; strengthening the process for Central American integration; and obtaining foreign financial aid and technical assistance for the national development plans.

Based on the above, and in view of the dangerous deterioration of the regional situation, the Contadora Group's foreign ministers reaffirm their conviction that actions contrary to the commitments in the Document of Objectives not only prevent a negotiated solution to the Central American crisis, but also interfere with the necessary framework for the peaceful coexistence of the governments in the area. In order to strengthen the diplomatic efforts and confront the deterioration of the crisis, the Contadora Group will carry out the following actions:

1. Contadora Document for Peace and Cooperation in Central America -- With the purpose of completing the negotiations on the Contadora Group's Document for Peace and Cooperation in Central America, in order to proceed immediately to the signing of that legal instrument, the Contadora Group's deputy foreign ministers will visit the Central American countries in the next few days. They will gather opinions and observations in relation to the pending topics, the chapter on security, and other adjustments, in order to complete the perfecting of the document.

2. Actions for Detente -- The foreign ministers reiterated that it is necessary to generate an atmosphere favorable for negotiations that will clearly reflect the political willingness of the Central American governments, through several simultaneous actions aimed at preventing the risks of a confrontation. That necessity, which has been acknowledged by those governments, includes an effort of good faith and determination to normalize their bilateral relations, particularly with their neighbor countries. The arms race, intimidating actions of force, foreign military presence in its various forms, and support for irregular forces should be stopped. Simultaneously, measures for the consolidation and strengthening of democratic systems should be adopted, as well as processes for national conciliation that will permit popular participation based on justice, liberty and democracy, in accordance with the commitments made in the Document of Objectives.

3. Costa Rican-Nicaraguan Relations -- In order to comply with the OAS Permanent Council's resolution of 11 July 1985, and consonant with the desire clearly expressed by the Costa Rican and Nicaraguan presidents in their recent exchange of letters, the Contadora Group invites the Nicaraguan and Costa Rican Governments to begin a dialogue in Panama during the first days of August, with the intention of finding effective and durable solutions for the tensions at the border between the two countries, within the framework of the Contadora Group's process of negotiations.

4. Manzanillo Talks -- The dialogue and understanding between the U.S. and Nicaraguan Governments is an important factor in the peace process for the region. In this regard, the foreign ministers urge the resumption of the bilateral talks in Manzanillo, which are aimed at achieving a political agreement between the parties.

5. International Organizations -- In compliance with the pertinent resolutions of the UN Security Council and UN General Assembly, in September the Contadora Group will present to the UN secretary general a detailed report on the status of its diplomatic efforts. It will also propose the inclusion of the Central American topic on the assembly's agenda, to be considered during the organization's regular session. In the same manner, the Contadora Group will send the pertinent notes to the OAS Permanent Council and to the secretary general of that regional organization. In addition, the Contadora Group will adopt the necessary initiatives in order to contribute actively to the meeting between the EEC, Spanish, Portuguese, Central American and Contadora Group foreign ministers scheduled to take place in Luxembourg in November.

6. Latin American Support -- The Contadora Group highly values the expressions of solidarity it has received from the Latin American community of nations, and their determination to participate more actively in the tasks promoted by the Contadora Group, through the establishment of a mechanism for political support aimed at facilitating the success of the Group's efforts.

The Contadora Group's foreign ministers once again recognize the confidence that the states in the international community have had in the Contadora Group's efforts, and their support for a peaceful and negotiated solution to the Central American conflicts. The international consensus proves that the Contadora Group's actions are valid and feasible, and at the same time, unmistakably registers the moral and political responsibility of all the governments involved in the regional conflict.

The Contadora Group, at the conclusion of its meeting held in the same place where that Latin American political initiative emerged in January 1983, states that it will resolutely continue making its contribution in favor of peace and cooperation in Central America. However, the solution of the conflicts depends on the willingness and determination of the Central American governments, which must arrive at the agreements that will permit political stability, economic and social development, and an orderly, peaceful, and safe coexistence in the region. Therefore, it is imperative to create the necessary atmosphere of confidence in order to achieve political agreements and to overcome the obstacles to the negotiations, within a process of reciprocal concessions, without sacrificing the essential and legitimate interests of each nation, that will guarantee harmonious and respectful relations between the Central American countries.

The Colombian, Mexican, and Venezuelan foreign ministers thank the Panamanian Government for the gestures of hospitality and efficiency that made the development of our meeting in the Contadora Island possible.

Contadora, 22 July 1985

[Sepulveda] I wish to quote the last part of the communique in stating that the foreign ministers of Venezuela, Colombia, and Mexico are particularly pleased to be in Panama again and to receive the Panamanian Government's hospitality. It is also a pleasure to welcome our colleague Jorge Abadia as a member of the Contadora Group, as foreign minister of Panama. It is also a privilege to have the political contribution and collaboration of Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi, a prestigious internationalist, and a man who understands the Latin America and international phenomena better than most. We are sure that we will strengthen and consolidate the tasks to be assumed within the Contadora Group with his help. Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo and myself also congratulate ourselves that we can make such valuable contributions to the task to be carried out.

Since it would be unwise to add further viewpoints to the ones stated in the communique issued by the Contadora Group foreign ministers, I would like to underscore a point which I consider is particularly illustrative. I refer to the affinity in viewpoints perceived during the talks held yesterday and today between the Contadora Group foreign ministers. In this regard, there is a consensus in the interpretation of political phenomena and proposals for the possible solutions to the Central American crisis. In this regard, it is a pleasure that we fully coincide in our views on the Central American political phenomena and on the formulas and schemes to provide solutions to this matter, which has worried our governments for some time. I congratulate myself and am sure that my colleagues will agree with this, becuase this affinity and consensus of interpretations has allowed us to quickly and expediently attain an understanding concerning the contents of the communique, which we were able to prepare and present so quickly in an effort to reassert the Contadora Group's political values and to propose immediate actions to the Central American governments. Thank you.

[Moderator] We will now start a brief question-and-answer period. We beg you to be brief and concise because the foreign ministers must soon depart for their respective countries. You may now begin, gentlemen of the press.

[Reporter] Messrs Foreign Ministers, have you discarded the possibility of another country joining the Contadora Group?

[Abadia] Will you please identify yourselves when you ask you questions so that we may have a better understanding of them. [sentence as heard] I will answer that first question, Mr Journalist. The topic was discussed at length during the meetings held yesterday and today, and we came to the conclusion that the Contadora Group does not need the participation of another brother country, even though we deeply appreciate the goodwill proved by many countries who offered to become members of the Contadora Group. It was also approved that countries which wish to develop mechanisms to support the Contadora Group may do so. Their contribution to these peace efforts will always be appreciated, because these efforts are not an exclusive right of anyone; they are the world's duty. Thank you.

[Aurelio Aguilar] Channel 13. Messrs Foreign Ministers, in your opinion, why...

[Abadia, interrupting] Please be kind enough to identify youself.

[Aguilar] Aurelio Aguilar, Channel 13.

[Abadia] Thank you.

[Aguilar] Mr Foreign Minister, why do you think that some pressure is being exerted to include other countries in the Contadora Group's meetings?

[Sepulveda] [Words indistinct] would like to clarify this, in order to distinguish between the Contadora Group's direct political efforts and the diplomatic contacts we have carried out, and what may become a mechanism of support for that work, which can be carried out by Latin American governments and by other governments, in other circumstances and within another context. This was stated at the San Jose meeting held in September, during which the EEC, Spain, and Portugal proved their support to the Contadora Group. We think that the Contadora Group's current membership allows for an efficient role; however, it would be very useful to reassert the Latin American support for this political project and to have all the systems of consultation and political support demanded by this Latin American effort. From this viewpoint, we observe with great interest and sympathy the initiatives taken to help strengthen the process started by the Contadora Group.

[Roberto Rodriguez] Mr Foreign Minister, Roberto Rodriguez of Channel 4 and AFP. I would like to ask [words indistinct] diplomatic efforts being carried out by you include contacts with extraregional countries that always exert pressure on the region, or maintain an influence on the region, to ask them not to delay this diplomatic effort and to avoid further obstacles, which have been in the way since August 1984?

[Unidentified foreign minister] Ever since the Contadora Group began its efforts, we have said, and we reassert it today, that if our work in the Central American region is to be successful, we need the cooperation of countries which, as we defined since the start, have interests in the region or special links to the region. Ever since the Contadora Group document was drafted, we have said that those countries should pledge to help attain the goals of the peace process, either through an additional protocol or any other legal document, which must, of course, include respect for the peoples' self-determination and, of course, a pledge not to carry out destabilizing actions within the region.

Throughout our diplomatic efforts we have not forgotten this goal and are constantly establishing contacts, both in and outside the region, in order to obtain those results. Now it is necessary, as stated in the communique which was just read, to issue a new call to all the countries to harmonize their actions with the objectives that are clearly stated and reasserted within the communique; thus, the efforts will prove fruitful.

Furthermore, I would like to stress that the efforts exerted during the last 2 days managed to eradicate the stalemate in the negotiation process. Consequently, the actions to be carried out as soon as possible -- I do not want to say immediately -- by the deputy foreign ministers will overcome the last obstacle -- the chapter on security matters -- to achieving a consensus regarding the Contadora Group. This chapter has been analyzed since September last year, almost a year. The countries' different positions and opinions have been heard, and we have prepared a document during these talks. It will be presented to the Central American countries so that they may issue their opinions and so that we may establish a definite consensus to eventually open the way for a prompt subscription to the Contadora Group document. Thank you.

[Raul Cedeno] I would like to ask a question. I am Raul Cedeno of Universal Stereo [Panama Radio station]. Messrs Foreign Ministers, you have greatly emphasized the support from countries which are not directly involved in the Contadora Group. We all agree that the Contadora Group has been supported in principle, not only by Latin American countries, but by other countries and communities at international level. Nevertheless, problems have arisen with countries which are directly involved in the Central American problem. What makes you think that this new Contadora Group meeting will change the Central American countries' attitude?

[Unidentified minister] We are fully aware of the difficult task assumed by Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela since 1983, when we started this sytematic effort to attain peace and stability in Central America. I think that few missions are as difficult as the peacemaking effort in conflictive situations. That is why I have said that the experience and the initiative of the Contadora Group is unprecedented in the history of international relations.

We have assumed this responsibility, aware of the immense difficulties that are posed by the tremendous commitment and even the risks this initiative implies for the Contadora countries. Nonetheless, we believe that the time has come, or rather it came in 1983, for Latin Americans to assume the responsibility of searching for Latin American solutions to our differences and conflicts. We have had overwhelming world support which reflects the conviction that the alternative of the Contadora Group in view of the balanced way in which it is based on the most solid principles of international law, is the most fitting alternative for securing peace and stability.

We acted with the strength afforded us in part by these principles. We believe that few principles, few initiatives, and few efforts have been as respectable as this one which moves us and which has gathered us here and has kept us meeting since 1983.

The countries of Central America accepted the initiative of the Contadora Group. They accepted the Document of Objectives, as is mentioned here in this statement today, and it is precisely because we have the support of those countries, the acceptance of those countries, given sovereignly, that we have committed ourselves to this effort.

This does not mean that there are not immense difficulties. The time that we have been working tenaciously, with dedication, without sparing efforts of any kind, indicates our conviction that we are fulfilling a historic duty in Latin America. We know what our difficulties and our obstacles are. Nevertheless, that does not discourage us in the least and, therefore, in this last meeting held in Contadora, on the island where this group originated, where it met for the first time, we reiterate our will to persist in an effort which cannot be in vain or fruitless in any way; not even in the worst alternative can we consider our efforts to have been in vain.

[Danilo Arias] Danilo Arias, DPA. Another question for the four foreign ministers. To be a little more specific and not to theorize so much, which the Contadora Group has been accused of doing a lot, the Nicaraguan Government has made a clear decision not to disarm itself, because it is going to be invaded by the United States and it has to prepare itself. The four of you know of a decision by the Honduran Government also not to disarm itself, because it is being threatened, at it says, by Nicaragua. And in El Salvador there is the guerrilla situation and the government says it cannot disarm itself, because if it does the country will be taken over by the guerrillas. So why did the activities of the Contadora Group reported in this communique today not get to the point? Instead of sending the [deputy] foreign ministers, why didn't you, the foreign ministers, hold a meeting with the foreign ministers in each country, followed by a meeting of the nine presidents, the five from the Central American nations and the four from the Contadora nations? Why has this matter been dragging on and on? [laughter]

[Abadia] We will gladly answer Mr Arias. There is something that must be made very clear here, distinguished members of the international and national press. The solutions presented by the Contadora Group as a peacemaking group, no matter how good these solutions may be, no matter how healthy they may seem, these solutions cannot be imposed. And apparently this perspective has been lost. It seems as if many persons are thinking that the Contadora Group can impose solutions above the political will of the countries and sovereign states of Central America. And that is a mistake.

We are carrying out with great sacrifice and great effort a peacemaking action that has to be accepted by those countries. That, precisely, is the complicated aspect of this peacemaking action. It must be accepted willingly by those sovereign states and cannot be imposed by us. We do not have the power to impose solutions and even if we were given the power, we would not accept it. We do not want to make impositions on sovereign states. We want to be sufficiently convincing from the political and diplomatic viewpoint for them to accept the solutions that we are proposing. If we lose sight of this, then we are totally losing sight of the profoundness and significance of the Latin American effort represented by the Contadora Group. Through these tenacious efforts which we are making to politically convince those sovereign states, which we respect, we are trying to show them that it is peace, dialogue, and peaceful coexistence that will really save the Latin American peoples, and not armed confrontation, which can only bring violence, death, and hate. That is our task and that is why it is difficult.

Mr Arias, I initiated the response to your interesting question and if any of the brother foreign ministers wishes to add anything they may do so. [no further comment from other foreign ministers] Very well, thank you all.

GOVERNMENT EXTENDS OIL CONTRACT WITH CONSORTIUM

PY210221 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 20 Jul 85 p 3

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- The government yesterday approved a rider to the contract signed between the oil companies Bridas of Argentina, Total of France, and Deminex of West Germany whereby pledged investment was increased to 900 million dollars in return for an extension from 20 to 25 years of the rights to prospect and work the Straits of Magellan area. The revised contract also allowed for the contractors to be paid in crude oil if necessary and set payment at 74.18 percent of the world price. The same consortium will also be investing 300 million dollars in the Hydra oilfield off Tierra del Fuego, a project which is to be given an 80-million dollar loan by the International Financial Corporation.

WHEAT PURCHASE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH BRAZIL

PY210213 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 20 Jul 85 p 3

[Text] (NA) -- Brazil will purchase almost 1.4 million tons of Argentine wheat between October 1985 and July 1986, the foreign trade secretariat announced yesterday. "In this way the balance of trade (with Brazil) will be levelled out," the secretariat said in a statement. It added that the wheat purchase comes at a time when placing grain on the international market has become difficult. The hard times for Argentine farms trying to sell abroad was noted by the Banco Ganadero which said in its most recent monthly report on agriculture trends that the "perspectives now being presented by the international grain market are hardly favourable" for farmers.

The bilateral accord between Argentina and Brazil was signed yesterday between Foreign Trade Secretary Ricardo Campero and Brazil's Foreign Ministry secretary-general, Paulo Tarso. The accord also opens the possibility of the State Oil Company (YPF) selling 200 million dollars in petroleum to Brazil this year alone. In exchange for the petroleum exports Argentina would receive Brazilian industrial products. The balance of trade between the two countries favoured Brazil last year by 342 million dollars. Without the new accord the gap would probably have widened substantially in favour of Brazil.

CHINESE OFFICIAL VISITS ENTRE RIOS PROVINCE

PY210048 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1008 GMT 17 Jul 85

[Text] Parana, 17 Jul (DYN) -- Zhu Shanqing, under secretary of the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee, stated here today that relations between the PRC and Argentina "are fundamental to sustaining international peace, achieving South-South cooperation, and protecting Third World interests in the face of colonialism and hegemony." Zhu Shanqing made this statement in Entre Rios Province while visiting local industries and meeting local leaders and officials in an effort to increase the exchange of products and experience, to the benefit of both countries.

Zhu Shanqing, who was received by Jorge Martinez Garbino, deputy governor of Entre Rios and president of the provincial legislative chamber, traveled to Parana with Senator Luis Brasesco and Senate Counselor Senate Roberto Rodriguez Vagaria, who recently traveled to the PRC under an exchange program, which has been increasing since the constitutional government was installed.

Zhu met with local legislators and exchanged opinions with the Radical senators on the possibility of exporting products from Entre Rios and on the visit of local legislators to Beijing. While talking to the local legislators, Zhu, who is visiting Argentina at the invitation of the National Committee of the Radical Civic Union Party, praised relations between the PRC and Argentina. Zhu said that "the two countries, which have different social and political systems, share common objectives," which mainly are "the joint struggle for the application of the principle of nonintervention and the territorial integrity of countries."

FORMER SIDE CHIEF CRITICIZES DEFENSE MINISTRY

PY192250 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1118 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Jul (DYN) -- Roberto Pena, the former chief of the Secretariat for State Intelligence [SIDE], has reported that the Defense Ministry "resisted" the SIDE proposal for changes in the operation of the Armed Forces intelligence services. The former SIDE chief has revealed that he proposed changing the operation of the Armed Forces intelligence services which, according to his plan, should have been under SIDE jurisdiction.

Pena said: "During the 14 months of my administration, I was not able to get my proposal approved, which is why I resigned." Asked about the possible source of his problems to get the project approved, Pena said that his proposal "ran into resistance from the Defense Ministry," which was at that time under the late Raul Borras. Pena explained that he also resigned from the Presidential Secretariat for Special Affairs, a position he held after asking to be relieved from the SIDE, because "after evaluating the situation, I realized that I had more disagreements than agreements with the government."

The former SIDE chief made these comments during a press conference in a downtown hotel to deny reports that while he was SIDE chief he authorized "special visits," which were not recorded in the books, to Anibal Gordon, the former member of the ultraright Triple A terrorist organization. In this regard, he also denied that one of the visitors included former terrorist Raul Guglielminetti, currently under arrest in Spain, who reportedly met Gordon in jail "to stop" an alleged extreme rightest coup in which Gordon reportedly was involved. Pena explained that "the SIDE cannot authorize or deny authorization for special visits to people held in the national penitentiary system." He added: "I never visited, authorized, or encouraged any such visits to Anibal Gordon."

He also stressed that during his administration, "no coup was being prepared by the right or by any other antigovernment or antidemocratic sector." He added that "only some unpopular, ineffective, and misguided people talked about a possible coup. What is more, not even those misguided people involved Anibal Gordon in their plans." Pena said that if he had known of such plans he would have told the president "immediately," as well as adopted the proper measures. He said that he is considering whether those responsible for the news reports that forced him to call this press conference "deserve to be sued for slander or libel."

"Some special operations groups committed some mischief" in 1984 and in the beginning of 1985, such as promoting a "no" reply to the referendum over the Beagle Channel, celebrating some masses, and some other actions that you (journalists) know about, Pena stated. When trying to dismantle these operations groups in the SIDE, Pena said that the Defense Ministry "unexpectedly" showed "resistance" to his actions, "because I know that this measure is clearly part of the Radical Civic Union platform."

Pena pointed out that "unfortunately, while I administered the SIDE I could not have the decree regulating the SIDE modified, so I could not truly be responsible for an agency that included some groups that interfered with its proper functioning."

"The field of work to be covered by the Armed Forces intelligence services should be well specified now," Pena said, "because they should in fact work within military intelligence."

Pena said that during his administration "there were no plans to stage a coup," and that Alfonsin was referring to "misguided radicals [trasnochados fragoteros] who are always dreaming of a coup" when he made that charge. He admitted that "some misguided people do work in the intelligence services," and that "many of those misguided people have been" inside the SIDE. Pena explained that "in the first few months of this government those special operations groups carried out their activities within the SIDE and not outside it, but, according to SIDE reports, it could clearly be seen that those groups started acting after mid-1984."

"Later, we noticed that the intelligence services became more efficient each day, because they clearly understood that they were working for a democracy," Pena said.

When asked how long Guglielminetti remained in the security services after the democratic government was installed, Pena replied that according to the information he had, Guglielminetti "worked in a security sector under the presidency." He added that "the pictures of Guglielminetti with Alfonsin that have been published were taken in the first days of the administration when things had not yet changed much."

BOMB GOES OFF NEAR HOUSE OF PERONIST LEADER

PY200306 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0250 GMT 20 Jul 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Jul (NA) -- A bomb went off at approximately 2330 in the house next to that of Peronist leader Julian Licastro, one of the candidates in the metropolitan district party elections. Neighbors have told NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS that the explosion was heard many blocks away, but they did not report any casualties. Licastro lives on Quirno Street, a few blocks from Rivadavia Avenue in Flores District.

BRIEFS

LOAN FOR CUBA -- Buenos Aires, 4 Jul (TELAM) -- Argentina has signed a $120-million export agreement with Cuba as part of Cuba's tourism development plan. It was officially reported today that the agreement includes the purchase by the Cuban Ministry of Tourism of cruisers, boats, sailboats, and related equipment worth $10 million. Argentina will also build hotels in Cuba worth $110 million. [Text] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1520 GMT 4 Jul 85 PY]

NEW SOCIALIST SECRETARY GENERAL -- Buenos Aires, 9 Jul (TELAM) -- Francisco Pasini has been elected secretary general of the Social Democratic Party [PSD] to replace Emilio Giannoni. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1758 GMT 9 Jul 85 PY]

BELGIAN, AUSTRIAN AMBASSADORS APPROVED -- The Argentine Government has approved the appointment of Ambassadors Luc Steyaer of Belgium and Albert Rohan of Austria to Argentina, the Argentine Foreign Ministry reported today. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1507 GMT 3 Jul 85 PY]

BANZER'S LEAD OVER PAZ ESTENSSORO VERY SLIGHT

PY222137 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2211 GMT 20 Jul 85

[By Amanda Davila]

[Excerpt] La Paz, 20 Jul (EFE) -- According to constitutional provisions, General Hugo Banzer, Victor Paz Estenssoro, and Jaime Paz Zamora all stand the same chance of being elected Bolivian president since all of them failed to get an absolute majority during the past elections. According to the Constitution and the Electoral Law, if none of the 18 parties that ran in the elections held on 14 July gets an absolute majority, the Congress will have to elect the president of the nation from among the three candidates receiving the greatest number of votes.

The official count, which became known today in eight out of the nine departments disagrees with the initial predictions that stated that Gen Banzer had achieved an easy win in the 14 July elections. The partial official count puts Nationalist Democratic Action (ADN) presidential candidate Hugo Banzer in first place, Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNR) presidential candidate Victor Paz Estenssoro in second, and Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) presidential candidate Jaime Paz Zamora, the former vice president, in third place.

Nevertheless, the difference between first and second place is not as significant as initially believed. The surveys conducted by the newspaper PRESENCIA give 31.72 percent to Banzer, 28.64 percent to Paz Estenssoro, and 9.46 percent to Paz Zamora. However, Paz Estenssoro has a greater chance of being elected president because he has more backing from the parties that will be participating in the Congress.

LA PAZ COURT EMPLOYEES STAGE WORK SLOWDOWN

PY190331 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] Electoral Court workers of La Paz Department have been staging a slowdown since 1600, demanding that their June salaries be paid. Court workers leader Javier Marquez has stated that the idea is not to hinder the vote-count but rather to defend the workers who were hired to work up to 30 July only.

[Begin recording] In principle, we have held two talks. The first was with the administrative director of the Electoral Court of La Paz Department at this time yesterday. The second talk was held today with the president of the court. In the talk yesterday with the administrative director, it was agreed to put this unit [into full operation] beginning at 1500, provided that the administrative director of this court fulfilled his commitment to make the payments or, at least, to let us know about the terms of payment that we, the heads of [words indistinct] were to collect. Unfortunately, the administrative director failed to show up at the coliseum before 1500, the deadline that was set. During our meeting with the president of the court, he said he lacked authority on the part of the administrative director to make the salary [word indistinct], as agreed with the administrative director. [end recording]

This attitude attaches another pessimistic note to the activities of the National Electoral Court.

ADN CONCERNED OVER SLOW VOTE-COUNT IN LA PAZ

PY221509 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Jul 85

[Excerpts] Guillermo Fortun Suarez, the executive secretary of the Nationalist Democratic Action [ADN], has said to Radio Panamericana regarding the slow vote-count in the La Paz Departmental Electoral Court that his situation is due to obstacles put forth by political parties which are not honest enough to recognize their defeat in the 14 July elections.

[Begin recording] I would like to point out that we are fatigued and annoyed by the slow vote-count in La Paz Department. Unlike other departments where the vote count is practically finished, the La Paz Departmental Electoral Court continues with its delays, and it is not operating normally. Not even 30 percent of the votes have been counted. This means that if the La Paz Departmental Electoral Court members, especially the judges, do not work hard in the next few days, some problems in delivering all the documents to the National Electoral Court may arise. [end recording]

Fortun Suarez also said that ADN is taking the necessary measures to consolidate the victory of General Banzer Suarez in the National Congress. He added that it would be cynical to try to diminish General Banzer's victory with delaying tactics in the National Congress.

[Begin recording] We are taking some measures but we have not yet had any official contact with any party. We have held some unofficial talks but officially, my party, ADN, has not made any contacts. We want to have a better idea of how Congress will be made up before initiating this type of contacts. We sincerely believe that the minority parties should respect the plurality if we really want to protect democracy in the country. [end recording]

ADN'S BANZER PRESENTS PLAN OF GOVERNMENT

PY202246 Paris AFP in Spanish 1646 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] La Paz, 19 Jul (AFP) -- Hugo Banzer Suarez, the presidential candidate of the Nationalist Democratic Action [ADN], today presented his administration's economic and social plan and stated that in order to recover from the crisis, order, peace, and labor will have to be reestablished by applying and obeying the law, and every Bolivian must follow these principles or stop being a Bolivian. Banzer Suarez, former de facto ruler from 1971 to 1978, is ahead of the other presidential candidates, according to unofficial tallies. The candidates trailing Banzer are Victor Paz Estenssoro of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement [MNR] and Jaime Paz Zamora of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR].

The ADN program is based on the reactivation of national economy, which has suffered more than 4 years of recession. It is also based on the promotion of exports and opening investment channels to foreign capitals in order to control hyperinflation and the black market dollar exchange.

Banzer said his party calls for replacing the current economic model of centralist and state-controlled capitalism with an economy in which capital would be accessible and that would meet the needs of the people in a democratic manner. He added that his administration intends to strategically strengthen the farming and agroindustrial sectors, which are the backbone of the economy. The concept of economic freedom and democracy is not incompatible with the presence of the government as a regulator and producer as long as it obeys market rules, he said.

The five central projects to be developed by the ADN administration are:

1. Farming development by means of integrated development units.

2. Intensive exploration and exploitation of oil and gas fields.

3. Rational exploitation of the Yununi salt deposits, which are rich in lithium.

4. Development of road infrastructure in northern Bolivia.

5. Making an inventory of Bolivian gold reserves and their exploitation.

Regarding the foreign debt and foreign investments, the ADN proposes to totally restructure the debt according to the incomes obtained from exportations, to establish direct negotiations to reprogram the payments, and to adopt a joint position with the rest of the debtor countries. We will promote a policy for foreign investments that will be completely open as long as it respects the legal framework and Bolivian interests, he said. The Bolivian foreign debt amounts to $5 billion, besides $270 million that has been under a moratorium since 1984.

Regarding the constitutional reforms, Banzer's administration will promote political decentralization of local administrations and of some state companies in order to strengthen national integration and win the full and real acceptance of all Bolivian people. The state deficit affecting the government will have to be attacked to reduce the gap between revenue and expenses in the national treasury. This will be achieved by increasing taxes and reorganizing the public sector labor force so that it can participate in more productive activities, as well as by enforcing an austerity policy and reducing public expenses.

After labeling the current crisis as an economic, political, moral, and social one, Banzer said his administration will prepare an integrated economic plan to be executed immediately based on the following actions:

First: to control inflation with proper fiscal policy and to control the public deficit; second: to implement an economic development and growth policy; third: to implement a foreign-debt reorganization policy; fourth: to implement investment policies for the public and private sectors; and fifth: to stabilize and recover the national economy.

Proposals in the social field will be based on respect for trade unions no matter who their leaders are, as well as on the fact that the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] will have to become one of the most important instruments in solving the economic crisis and the economic and social development, Banzer said. Social conflicts, he added, will have to be solved through an understanding between managers and workers based on mutual respect and on state justice, as well as on the protection of the worker's well-being without destroying or damaging labor sources.

In the international field, Banzer said the ADN endorses respect for national sovereignty, the right for Bolivia to have an access to the sea, and the rejection of any political influence from Eastern or Western powers.

SARNEY TURNS DOWN CASTRO'S SUMMIT OFFER

PY191436 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1331 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] Brasilia, 19 Jul (EFE) -- Brazilian President Jose Sarney has turned down Fidel Castro's invitation to participate in a continental summit to discuss Latin America's foreign debt. In his letter to Fidel, Sarney thanked him for the invitation and explained that Brazil has already chosen the Cartagena Consensus as the appropriate forum for debating the foreign debt problem. Itamaraty diplomatic sources indicated, however, that despite the fact that Sarney turned down the invitation, the wording of the Brazilian president's letter reflects goodwill toward the Cuban Government. Brazilian economists Mario Enrique Simonsen and Maria de la Concepcion Tavares have also been invited to the meeting that will take place in Havana from 30 July through 3 August.

PLANNING MINISTER COMMENTS ON PRIVATIZATION

PY192126 Brasilia Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 18 Jul 85

[Excerpt] Sayad has announced the government's privatization program. Eudes Lyra reports from the Planning Ministry:

[Begin report] After installing the Commission for Privatization today, Planning Minister Joao Sayad reported that approximately 47 state enterprises will be privatized immediately and that others will be closed down. The minister added that the number of state enterprises that the government hopes to privatize is much higher.

[Begin Sayad recording -- in progress]... I do not want to name any more companies, about 270 enterprises, [words indistinct], owe to the state banks, have become state enterprises because they had financial problems and ended up being bought. Their property was transferred to the banks. [Words indistinct] to return it to the private sector. [end recording] [end report]

INDUSTRY, COMMERCE MINISTER TO VISIT U.S.

PY192139 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 18 Jul 85

[Text] Industry and Commerce Minister Roberto Gusmao is leaving for Washington tomorrow. He will discuss the decline in Brazilian exports to the U.S. market. Roberto Gusmao is taking a letter that President Sarney has addressed to President Reagan on the problem of the protectionist barriers set up against Brazilian shoe exports.

[Begin Gusmao recording] We foresee a drop of $900 million in exports to the United States. The United States is establishing protectionist barriers. We will make an effort to champion the Brazilian stand with the U.S. Government. [end recording]

Gusmao will hold talks with the U.S. industry and commerce minister on alcohol exports, which would earn nearly $800 million for Brazil, and also on the steel and [words indistinct]. Upon returning from the United States, Minister Roberto Gusmao will forward to President Sarney the outcome of the audit being conducted in several bureaus of the Industry and Commerce Ministry. He will also make a proposal to (?shut down) the bureaus operated abroad by the Brazilian Coffee Institute, the Sugar Institute, the Alcohol Institute, and the Brazilian Tourism Company.

According to Gusmao, only the Institute of Technological Research [IPT] bureau in London is to be maintained. Gusmao believes that this measure will result in saving several thousand dollars since the expenditures for just renting an office total nearly $50,000, not to mention the bureau officials' salaries.

[Begin recording] It is a large expenditure, and not only that, it is an unnecessary waste. Only if the expenditure justifies it, but when the expenditure is unnecessary, we cannot live with the waste... [end recording -- in progress]

LABOR LEADER ON FOREIGN DEBT SITUATION

PY221848 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Jul 85 p 5

[Excerpts] Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, 39, national president of the Workers Party (PT), returned from Cuba the day before yesterday. Invited by Fidel Castro, Da Silva participated in a Latin American meeting of 325 trade union leaders (32 from Brazil) in order to discuss the continent's foreign debt. He favors the creation of "an OPEC of the indebted countries since Latin America's debt of about $360 billion is unpayable, and it is humanly impossible for any country by itself to find a way out. Only a strong position will make the creditors have any respect for the debtors."

Lula said: "Brazil cannot possibly pay $12 billion in yearly interests without aggravating the people's level of misery." He added: "I doubt that nonpayment will cause a break in relations with the creditors. If they do not want to sell to us, there are many countries that do. It is also important to know that the creditors need Latin America because their multinational corporations, their food, and their slave labor are here. We should not be afraid of retaliation. The least that can happen because of our decision to take a strong position is that we sit down at a negotiating table and discuss the situation."

IRAN TO REJOIN LIST OF OIL SUPPLIERS

PY111715 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1559 GMT 10 Jul 85

[Text] Rio do Janeiro, 10 Jul (EFE) -- Carlos Santanna, director of the state Brazilian Petroleum Corporation [Petrobras], announced today in Rio de Janeiro that Iran has again been included in the list of Brazil's oil suppliers. Within 2 weeks, Petrobras, the state-run oil monopoly, will begin to receive Iranian oil. In exchange, Brazil will sell Iran various products worth $5 million.

With the inclusion of Iran, Petrobras' list of suppliers now numbers 10 countries, which sell 557,000 barrels per day to Brazil.

PINOCHET ATTACKS COMMUNISM, SYMPATHIZERS

PY221705 Paris AFP in Spanish 1451 GMT 21 Jul 85

[Text] San Antonio, 21 Jul (AFP) -- President Augusto Pinochet has said his government is struggling against communism because communism is against the freedom of man and if there is no freedom, no human development is possible. Speaking to a group of women in San Antonio, 100 km west of Santiago, Pinochet said: The people do not understand why we are anticommunists, why we fight communism, and why we do not accept communists or their sympathizers. We are anticommunists because we do not want to be slaves.

Pinochet pointed out: Many people do not yet understand the problem of Marxism and of becoming collectivist, that is, becoming, a member of a socialist, cooperative, or communist society. The difference is that the communists are the extreme of the concept I have just described. Pinochet said communism has been struggling against the middle class for almost 70 years and that when we look at Russia, we see that it has made not progress because the freedom that man carries within his heart has been taken away from him.

In a speech to members of the Mother's Club, Pinochet said: When there is no freedom, no human development is possible and that is why we are against communist concepts. He added that communism puts man into a system, it takes away his freedom, and even his right to know if he can marry a certain womean, carry out a specific task, or travel to a certain area because everything has to be under control, everything has to under the heavy hand of socialist communism. Pinochet called on the women to ponder these concepts, and to have faith and hope, although our government, which threw off the chains of communism if unfortunately being permanently persecuted and attacked.

ZALDIVAR ON REJECTION OF SANDINIST INVITATION

PY202355 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1524 GMT 17 Jul 85

[Text] Santiago, 17 Jul (EFE) -- Andres Zaldivar, the Chilean president of the Christian Democratic International, has stated that he does not support the forces that are trying to reinstate a Somoza-type dictatorship in Nicaragua. Andres Zaldivar made this clarification after explaining his reasons for turning down the official invitation from the Sandinist regime to attend ceremonies commemorating the sixth anniversary of the revolution which ousted the dictator Anastasio Somoza.

Zaldivar said: My refusal to attend this anniversary celebration should not be interpreted as support for political forces trying to reinstate a Somoza-type dictatorship. He added that he simply intended to act in a way that confirms the Social Christian position regarding Nicaragua, namely, that Sandinism should pursue the objectives it had when it carried out the revolution. The imbalance that occurred in Nicaragua, said Zaldivar, quoting Archbishop Obando, was due to the fact that when dictatorship lasts too long, armed opposition groups appear which go beyond the political action of democratic forces. When the dictatorships fall, it is obvious that the groups wielding weapons use their strength at the negotiation table, despite their minority status.

Zaldivar added that Archbishop Obando has told him that the anti-Somoza revolution was supported by all the people and by the political parties, but the Sandinists held the weapons after the defeat of the National Guard, and thus it was obvious that the power would remain in their hands.

Andres Zaldivar said in conclusion that when a political party becomes fused with the Armed Forces of a country, as has occurred in Nicaragua, there cannot possibly be any democracy.

INDIVIDUALS ANNOUNCE CHARGES AGAINST MINISTER

PY182215 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Jul 85

[Excerpts] Over 50 individuals from the national social, political, and labor sectors today announced that constitutional charges have been raised against the interior minister. Former Senator Jorge Lavandero read a statement issued by numerous individuals. This statement about the national situation also announces that constitutional charges have been raised against the interior minister.

[Begin recording] Certain that we are interpreting the will of all those Chileans who are sincerely seeking peace, the reconciliation among Chileans, and the recovery of Chile, we have adopted the following decisions:

1. To bring constitutional charges against the interior minister and to demand that he immediately enforce those measures that will safeguard social order and punish all those who are guilty of the crimes that we have denounced.

2. To request that in accordance with what has been established by the bishops of other dioceses, Santiago Cardinal Juan Francisco Fresno impose the moral and spiritual punishment of excommunication on all those who are either directly or indirectly responsible for the mentioned crimes and human rights violations. [end recording]

The charge will be made by Gabriel Valdes, Andres Zaldivar, Carlos Briones, Rene (Aveliuk), Rodolfo Seguel, Salvador Castro, Carmen Frei, Clotario Blest, Jorge Mario Quinzio, the widows of Parada, Nattino and Guerrero, Ricardo (Brodksy), and others.

Charges Termed 'Ridiculous'

PY192102 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish in 1730 GMT 19 Jul 85

[By Rosa Sanchez]

[Text] Interior Under Secretary Alberto Cardemil has said that the decision by some opposition politicians to raise constitutional charges against the interior minister on the grounds that there is insecurity in Chile is ridiculous. Cardemil stated that he learned about the charges from the press and that based on the reasons given by the politicians, he can say they are ridiculous.

Asked whether the designation of the first civilian governor for the Arauco region means that power is gradually being handed over to civilians, he replied: Not necessarily. The best qualified people, either civilians or militarymen, are designated to the position of governor.

Concerning the charges against the interior minister, Cardemil reiterated a statement Minister Secretary General of Government Javier Cuadra made last night: The first thing the opposition should do is adopt a clear position toward communism. This is what the people want. Cardemil made these comments in Casablanca at a brief ceremony during an inspection visit the president is paying to the Fifth Region and some metropolitan areas. The president is evaluating the reconstruction work under way in the areas devasted by the 3 March earthquake.

SUPREME COURT REJECTS RODOLFO SEGUEL'S APPEAL

PY190303 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Jul 85

[Text] In a definitive decision, the Supreme Court has decided that Rodolfo Seguel Molinas ceased to be a Chilean Copper Corporation [Codelco] employee in June 1983, when he was fired. This was unanimously decided today by the five members of the Second Supreme Court Chamber, which accepted an appeal by Codelco's El Teniente Division against two judges of the Rancagua Appellate Court, who on 28 June 1984 ordered Seguel's immediate reinstatement as a Codelco employee in Rancagua.

Seguel was fired by Codelco in June 1983 when, as president of the Chilean Copper Workers Confederation, he called an illegal stoppage, which was complied with. Seguel then sued Codelco for illegal firing. In a decision on 12 March 1985, the Rancagua Second Court ruled that this firing was legal because Seguel was not protected by the legal rights of organized labor. But the Rancagua Appellate Court, with the votes of Judges Juan Rivas Larrain, and Eduardo del Campo, annulled the first instance ruling and ordered that Seguel be reinstated immediately and that he be reimbursed for his lost wages plus interest for the months he was off work. However, Codelco submitted a complaint against the above-mentioned judges to the Supreme Court, which rejected the appellate court decision. Therefore, the court decision ordering Seguel's reinstatement was suspended until the court arrived at a decision regarding the complaint against Judges Rivas and Del Campo. Today the court accepted the appeal, thus annulling the Rancagua Appellate Court decision. Therefore, the first-instance decision stating that Seguel was fired as of June 1983 stands.

Asked about the issue, Copper Workers Confederation lawyer Luis Eduardo Thayer noted that he has not yet been officially informed about the court decision and he declined to make any statement. At any rate, it was learned that Seguel's lawyers are considering an appeal.

Seguel Criticizes Decision

PY220334 Paris AFP in Spanish 2148 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] Santiago, 19 Jul (AFP) -- Chilean union leader Rodolfo Seguel, who has been denied any representativity by the Supreme Court as head of the opposition labor unions, today said that the court's decision is aimed at paralyzing the labor movement. However, Seguel, who is responsible for the protest demonstrations that began in Chile 2 years ago to demand the reestablishment of democracy, said that he will continue as president of the National Workers Command (CNT), and of the powerful Copper Workers Confederation. We made a great effort to unite and to raise the voice of the Chilean workers, said Seguel upon announcing that he will ask the Supreme Court members to review their decision.

The Supreme Court said that Seguel, who has Christian Democratic inclinations, is no longer an employee of the El Teniente copper mine because he was dismissed by the state mine company when he sponsored the first protests in mid-1983 against the government of General Augusto Pinochet. Seguel said: The decision is against the workers and it is not only the government but also the court that wants to put a tombstone over the labor movement.

Other leaders of the CNT, a multiunion organization created by Seguel, said that the court's decision sets a very serious precedent because now the government and businessmen will be able to fire all the union leaders who do not support them. The Democratic Workers Federation (CDT), made up of unions that separated from the CNT, expressed support for Seguel, saying that the Supreme Court decision is one more example of its implacable prejudice against labor and human rights issues.

BETANCUR DISCUSSES SUBVERSION AT CONGRESS OPENING

PA210344 Paris AFP in Spanish 0043 GMT 21 Jul 85

[Text] Bogota, 20 Jul (AFP) -- Colombian President Belisario Betancur said today that the Latin American revolutionary leaders' sectarianism and stubbornness are the cause of subversion.

While opening the ordinary Chamber and Senate sessions in Bogota today, Betancur analyzed the factors which generate subversion, and invited its leaders to a dialogue in search for peace. Even though he mainly discussed the Colombian situation, he said a few words to point out that Latin American revolutionary leaders present all of their positions as a direct expression of the social crisis.

He does not share those viewpoints, and stressed that factors such as unemployment, low income, lack of education, health, and housing never lead the people to subversion.

"The subversive movement is not a people up in arms," said Betancur, who asserted that "revolutionary thought is not a direct result of the people's poverty" as claimed by the guerrilla leaders.

"Social and economic problems, no matter how grave they may be, do not generate a subversive political concept by themselves. If this were true, our Third World countries would have the darkest of destinies," he said.

"Poverty will be our companion and, if it ever generates subversion by itself, then we would be fatally doomed to withstand that scourge and that would make our efforts for progress even more difficult," he said.

He described the peace policy being enforced since he rose to power in 1982 as "a great investment for the country," and said he will continue exerting himself for the remainder of his mandate, until August 1986. Nevertheless, he asserted his support for the military forces in their struggle against the guerrilla organizations and pointed out that in Colombia's case, the groups up in arms could be overcome "with a minimum cost."

"The Armed Forces must never cease their work of waging war against those who resist the law," said the president, who added that he is ready to be flexible in the search for peace.

Betancur denounced the fact that a minority is trying to destabilize the peace process in Colombia with "treacherous stubbornness," but admitted that the majority advocates the democratic dialogue in search of solutions. "The country wants and advocates peace to consolidate democracy," he said, stressing that "the roads to totalitarian solutions will not be pursued. The country wants authority; they have it and will continue to have it."

He promised that for the remainder of his administration, which will conclude on 7 August 1986, he will continue to advocate reforms that guarantee a full social and political democracy, and economic development programs.

Betancur demanded that the Congress approve several bills which will allow the government to complement the strategies for a democratic opening and increase social justice in the country.

BRIEFS

MARIJUANA CONFISCATED -- Santa Marta, 9 Jul -- The Administrative Department of Security has discovered a shipment of 2,200 kg of pressed marijuana worth approximately 50 million pesos during an operation in El Poblado, Cienaga jurisdiction. No arrests were reported. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 Jul 85 p 5 C PA]

OFFICIAL GIVES DETAILS ON CLASH WITH ALFARO LIVES

PA222258 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] On Thursday afternoon, Ecuadoran Government and Justice Minister Luis Robles Plaza commented on the death of one policeman and the wounding of another during a clash with members of the Alfaro Lives group. In the Presidency's Press Room, there were masks of red and other colors bearing the group's logo. There were also power cords, identity documents, and photographs and maps of some sectors of the city.

[Begin Robles recording] I will begin my comments regarding the regrettable death of policeman Luis Cali and the wounding of policeman Cesar Calvallo Heri, who is hospitalized. A few days ago, the national police were tipped off that something suspicious was taking place at house number A-31, in La Alborada, a Quito neighborhood. The appropriate precautions were taken and it was corroborated that there were compromising items inside the house, such as gunpowder, rolls of dynamite fuse, wire commonly used in certain terrorist acts, hoods, balaclavas, maps of certain sectors in Quito, and a number of articles which you see here, in addition to those two hoods bearing the Alfaro Lives logo.

The house was put under surveillance, and five persons were seen entering it. As the two policemen, who were surveilling the house, were requesting aid to make arrests because of the number of persons involved, they noticed that these persons were leaving in a hurry. For that reason, they had to act. The policemen arrested these persons, frisking them and conducting the appropriate investigation, which resulted in the seizure of four identity documents from five of the persons arrested. Their names are: Bayron Cordova, Melchor Ayala Ramos, Luis Flores Castillo, and Maria Rojas Cajas. The fifth person had no identity documents, but unfortunately, as this was taking place, one of the persons unexpectedly turned out to be armed. I honestly do not know which one, as only the wounded policeman can identify him. The policemen did not notice this when they were frisking the suspects. This person fired at the policeman at point-blank range, hitting him in the throat and killing him on the spot. He also fired at the other policeman, who was wounded and is in the hospital. All suspects immediately fled. [end recording]

Despite the police's efforts on Thursday night, the terrorists have not been captured.

BRIEFS

MINISTRY NAME CHANGE -- Effective today the Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy is officially called the Ministry of Energy and Mines, according to a government decree signed by President Leon Febres Cordero. The decree also includes the complete reorganization of that ministry. [Summary] [Quito Radio Quito Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Jul 85 PA]

PRESIDENT-ELECT ANNOUNCES MEMBERS OF NEW CABINET

PA202036 Paris AFP in Spanish 1956 GMT 20 Jul 85

[Text] Lima, 20 Jul (AFP) -- The first ministerial team that will begin the administration of Peruvian President-elect Alan Garcia Perez will be headed by Luis Alva Castro, as prime minister and minister of economy and finance, according to an announcement made this afternoon by the president-elect himself. The cabinet will be as follows:

Minister of the Presidency	Nicanor Mujica Alvarez Calderon
Minister of the Interior	Abel Salinas Izaguirre
Minister of Foreign Relations	Allan Wagner Tizon
Minister of War	Army Division General Jorge Flores Torres
Minister of the Navy	Navy Vice Admiral Julio Pacheco Concha
Minister of Aeronautics	Air Force General Jose Guerra Lorenzetti
Minister of Agriculture	Mario Barturen Duenas
Minister of Industry, Commerce, Tourism and Integration	Cesar Atala Nazzal
Minister of Justice	Luis Gonzales Posada Izaguirre
Minister of Education	Grover Pango Vildoso
Minister of Labor	Carlos Blancas Bustamente
Minister of Health	David Tejada de Rivero
Minister of Energy and Mines	Wilfredo Huayta Nunez
Minister of Housing and Construction	Luis Bedoya Velez
Minister of Transportation and Communications	Jose Murgia Zannier
Minister of Fisheries	Jose Palomino Roedel
Presidential Advisers	Hugo Otero, Hector Delgado, and Alfredo Tello

ALAN GARCIA REJECTS CASTRO'S DEBT PROPOSAL

PY202135 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2200 GMT 19 Jul 85

[By Marisol Marin]

[Text] Lima, 19 Jul (EFE) -- Peruvian President-elect Alan Garcia said today that the foreign debt is a problem that should be solved between the poor and the rich countries, between South and North, while a Cuban proposal would convert it into a problem between East and West.

At a press conference held with foreign correspondents, Alan Garcia made this reply to the proposal by Cuban President Fidel Castro, who favors writing off the foreign debt. Alan Garcia said Castro's proposal is interesting but unrealistic, adding that the debt problem does not concern Cuba. The Peruvian president-elect stated that Cuba has most of its trade relations with the Soviet Union and the socialist countries, being a member of CEMA (the common market of the communist countries) and, therefore, being part of that other world, he said. We hail the material progress of Cuba, which I would wish for my people, but I should say that the debt problem does not concern Cuba, the future Peruvian president asserted.

Alan Garcia said that Peru needs at least 2 years to reactivate its economy, and it trusts that its creditors will understand that it is impossible to pay the foreign debt now, submitting to the conditions dictated by the IMF. Garcia reiterated the future Peruvian Government's will to pay and its wish to do so as soon as the recovery of our economy permits it.

Garcia, who will assume power on 28 July, said several times that the IMF conditions were unacceptable and stressed repeatedly that his country will negotiate directly with creditor banks, because the bankers are more pragmatic, and they know that to insist on payment today is the same as not getting paid tomorrow, because the resources will be exhausted.

He stated that his government has drafted a detailed program showing the creditors how Peru intends to meet its obligations, which total about $14 billion. The program sees the agrarian sector as the main base for the future growth of the Peruvian economy.

After rejecting Castro's proposal, Alan Garcia said his government will propose a new policy, and it will do so on an individual basis, because the crisis compels us to act, and it is up to Peru to begin. At the same time, however, we reconfirm our intention to pay. The leader of the American Revolutionary Popular Alliance (APRA) insisted on the need for Latin American integration to face the IMF, which threatens Latin American economic sovereignty.

Regarding the United States he said that it threatens the political sovereignty of the Latin American countries through its threats of intervention in Nicaragua. He stated that the IMF is now acting as the guardian of order and austerity, but in the decade of the 1970's, it was the accomplice of reckless spending and mistaken indebtedness, because at that time, it was believed that this would favor the international banking system. He warned that Central America must be defended and that Latin America should participate, and he praised the peacemaking efforts of the Contadora Group, hinting at the possibility that Peru might send Peruvian doctors to Nicaragua as proof of solidarity.

Garcia said: The ideological disagreements with the Nicaraguan Government do not make us forget that a problem of continental sovereignty has been posed there, because in the United States, there is an obsession with understanding all of Latin America through Nicaragua. Alan Garcia stated that the power transfer in Peru on 28 July will have revolutionary connotations because of its democratic, nationalist and popular nature and because of the new orientation of the Peruvian policy which APRA will implement. He said that the presence of several Latin American presidents and other foreign dignitaries was very valuable and important and said that very precise instructions had been given and all kinds of measures had been taken to guarantee the security of the visitors. Alan Garcia denied rumors that some leaders who had promised to attend, like Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, had canceled their trips at the last minute for security reasons.

SUBVERSIVE PLAN THWARTED BY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

PY222230 Paris AFP in Spanish 1726 GMT 22 Jul 85

[Text] Lima, 22 Jul (AFP) -- A local newspaper today reported that a subversive plan that included blowing up railroads, highways, and bridges to isolate Lima, has been thwarted by the intelligence service of the Civil Guard. According to the newspaper, only 6 days before the transfer of power to President-elect Alan Garcia, the plan was detected after the detention of a Shining Path group member whose identity has not been revealed. The source added that the police immediately began a strict control of vehicles between Huancayo, in the central part of the country, and Lima.

Moreover, yesterday, three persons were caught by the police while trying to dynamite the building where Fisheries Minister Ismael Benavides Ferreyros lives, in the San Isidro District of Lima. Specialists deactivated the dynamite charges that were about to go off, the building's janitor Faustino Santos Quispe reported. He added that neither the minister nor his family were home at that time.

The police also reported that yesterday individuals armed with submachine guns attacked the police station in the Carabayllo District, in the outskirts of Lima, but were repelled by the post detachment. This has been the sixth attack this month against police stations of this capital.

AIRPORT TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS FOR INAUGURATION

PY221622 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1300 GMT 22 Jul 85

[Text] Strict security measures were implemented yesterday at Jorge Chavez International Airport for the arrival, beginning 26 July, of foreign dignitaries invited to attend the presidential inauguration. The Airports and Commercial Aviation Corporation [Corfac] general manager's office is coordinating security with the Civil Guard's second regional office. Beginning on 26 July, the office of the chief of the Civil Guard's second region will double the number of civil guardsmen posted at the terminal. The first step is the preparation of a list of all persons working at Jorge Chavez Airport, including employees of private companies working in the airport's offices. It was stated that any person not included on the list will not be allowed to enter the airport terminal.

POLICE SAY MRTA ATTACKED LIMA EFE OFFICE

PY222056 Lima EFE in Spanish 0107 GMT 21 Jul 85

[Text] Lima, 20 Jul (EFE) -- The Peruvian Investigative Police today said that the three armed young people who yesterday afternoon invaded the offices of the EFE News Agency in Lima belong to the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement [MRTA]. According to the police report, the subversives, who at gunpoint forced the EFE representative in Lima, Maria Soledad Marin, to send a message, belong to a faction of the Tupac Amarus. The police added that the three persons said that they belonged to the People's Revolutionary Command [CRP] to mislead the investigations. It also stated that the techniques used were similar to those employed by the Tupac Amarus. Meanwhile, the walls of the EFE offices are still painted with the initials CRP and the slogans left by the occupiers who kept the EFE employees locked up for several minutes before they left.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION VISITS EMERGENCY ZONE

PY221814 Lima EFE in Spanish 0353 GMT 17 Jul 85

[Text] Lima, 16 Jul (EFE) -- The Human Rights Commission presided over by Argentine Nobel Peace Prize winner Adolfo Perez Esquivel has denounced the increase of political violence and the militarization of Peru's rural zones, now under a state of emergency. The commission, made up of seven individuals from different countries, has spent 10 days traveling to various parts of the country including Ayacucho and Huanta, which are considered the most violence-ridden zones. The results of their investigation will be handed to Alan Garcia's social-democratic government, which will assume power on 28 July.

According to the commission members, the preliminary report, to be followed by a more concrete and detailed one, states that in the emergency zones, an increase in the practice of torture has been noted, as have extra legal executions, mass graves, and the disappearance of persons. The number of complaints to the commission about missing persons is not mentioned in these reports but according to reports collected by EFE, the total was about 200 in Ayacucho, Huanta, and Quinua, the initial center of the Shining Path's activities.

The members of the commission, among whom are the Spaniard Jose Antonio Martin Pellin and the Bolivian Loyola Guzman, state that the limits set for the state of emergency by the Constitution have now been surpassed.

As a consequence of this situation, some peasant communities have organized their own civil defense groups, which has led to increased violence. Other peasants have moved to urban areas. The report adds that the corruption, negligence, slowness and neglect of the judicial branch and Interior Ministry must also be considered, because they are making ineffective the response that the state should make to violations of human rights.

PERCOVICH ON SOVIET BOATS, U.S. AVIATION ACCORD

PY221903 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0230 GMT 22 Jul 85

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Luis Percovich Roca on 21 July made an orderly review for the "News Center" program of the situation in the country at the end of the Belaunde administration. He referred to the unsigned airline agreement with the United States, the solution of the problem concerning the Soviet fighting boats, and other issues.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] What is the status of the fishing agreement with the Soviet Union and the airline agreement with the United States?

[Percovich] Concerning the situation in the fishing sector, which is related, to some extent, to the Soviet Union -- I am talking about the agreement between the Public Enterprise for Fishing Services (EPSEP) and the Pacific Fishing Enterprise with the participation of Soviflot -- this problem has been completely solved. Last week, I summoned Soviflot and EPSEP representatives to the Prime Minister's Office to draft an agreement. According to this agreement, Soviflot commits itself to delivering all the frozen fish that has not been delivered by the Pacific Fishing Enterprise as well as fishmeal and fish oil, at no cost to EPSEP.

This is a constructive and positive gesture by the Soviet Union, which shows that diplomatic relations between Peru and the Soviet Union have not deteriorated. On the contrary, we have maintained a permanent dialogue at the prime minister's level to find a mutually satisfactory solution. This pleases me, because it has permitted us to solve a situation that we did not want to leave pending. According to the agreement, all these items, which are about to be delivered to the EPSEP warehouses, must be delivered in the next few days. The deadline is 26 July.

Concerning the bilateral commercial aviation agreement between Peru and the United States, we forwarded to the U.S. Government the memorandum of understanding, its annexes, and the minimum conditions nearly 2 months ago. All these documents were delivered to the American Revolutionary Popular Alliance party [APRA] for its assessment over a month ago. As the president and I, in my capacity as prime minister, have stated, this agreement could only be signed now with the express approval of the APRA because the agreement will have to be implemented during its administration. Since the agreement has not been publicly approved, I believe its signing and implementation will have to be the responsibility of the administration that will be installed on 28 July. [end recording]

ENERGY MINISTER ON POSSIBLE REVENUE LOSSES

PA192015 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1725 GMT 17 Jul 85

[All figures as received]

[Text] Caracas, 17 Jul (DPA) -- Energy and Mines Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti declared in Caracas today that a $1-reduction in the price per barrel of oil would result in a loss of only $93,942,000 for the rest of the year. Several government experts, encouraged by this statement, also concluded that then Venezuela would not find its foreign exchange income seriously threatened by an upcoming drop in world oil prices.

The minister refuted the content of an article recently published by THE WASHINGTON POST to the effect that Venezuela would lose $600 million if the price of oil were reduced by $1 a barrel. Venezuela sells 614,000 barrels of heavy crude abroad daily, its main export item. Some 60,000 barrels of light crude a day are sold to countries that are signatories of the San Jose Accord. The remainder is sold as refined products. Venezuela's production target for 1985 is 1.41 million barrels a day, the minister said.

Theoretically, if we decided today to lower the price per barrel by $1 starting on 1 August, we would have to multiply 614,000 barrels by 153 days. We would then have a total of 93,942,000 barrels for the rest of the year, the minister stated, adding that if this situation were to last 365 days, the total would be 224 million barrels. Hernandez Grisanti said that the estimate attributed to a WASHINGTON POST expert is totally unfounded.

At the end of the January-June 1985 period, the average price of Venezuelan exports was $26.40 barrel, 17 cents less than the estimate used for preparing the budget, the minister said. It is possible that this average might come down, we do not know by how much, due to the present market situation, but we managed up to 30 June with a price that had slipped by just 17 cents, Hernandez Grisanti added.

It is difficult to believe that OPEC countries are in a position to make a drastic reduction in the price of crude. In my opinion, if OPEC countries were to reduce the price by $2 to $4 a barrel, the demand would not increase for another 3 years, and their income in the meantime would be reduced intolerably, Hernandez Grisanti concluded.

MINISTER HERNANDEZ GRISANTI ATTENDS OPEC MEETING

PA230343 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Jul 85

[Excerpts] The OPEC meeting opened today in Geneva, where 13 delegations will decide on prices and production. This morning, we held a telephone conversation with Energy and Mines Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti who gave our reporter Carlos Fernandez some information.

[Begin recording] OPEC is meeting at a time of crisis, one of the worst in 25 years. There are certain circumstances outside the organization as well as actions within the organization that have placed OPEC in a situation that cannot easily be resolved. However, solutions do exist, and the member countries must find them. We Venezuelans should know that there are no miracle solutions for our problems. No OPEC decision could result in an increase in consumption and demand for oil or ensure that all difficult situations in the world oil market would disappear, that prices would increase, and that Venezuela would receive a vast amount of money.

The best we could hope for would be solutions that might contribute to stabilizing the oil market, and therefore Venezuela would have more or less stable revenues in the forthcoming years. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi reiterated that Venezuela will decide on the prices, looking after our country's interests, particularly with regard to the price structure.

Availing themselves of the fact the president was walking through the gardens at the Miraflores Palace, the newmen asked him questions. President Jaime Lusinchi was very reserved at the beginning, but later on he gave more details. He pointed out that the Venezuelan team led by Arturo Hernandez Grisanti is evaluating the situation and is closely following the international crude market. The newsmen were not really pleased with this first answer, and so they asked him about the question of prices. Will Venezuela drop the prices of its crude? President Jaime Lusinchi was very clear and definite: We will cross that bridge when we come to it. He was then apparently admitting there are uncertainties and contradictions. However, he emphasized that the country has nothing to fear, since Venezuela will adopt the right decision at the proper time. He added: We are very closely and calmly following the issue and analyzing it with respect to all interesting opinions.

At the end of his brief statements to the few newsmen who were at Miraflores Palace, President Jaime Lusinchi emphasized: Our decision will reflect the best interests of the nation.

CFE REPORTS VOTE DISTRIBUTION IN ELECTIONS

PA221655 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 22 Jul 85

[Text] Mexico's Federal Electoral Commission [CFE] met this afternoon to learn the results of the nationwide elections for deputies based on proportional representation. CFE President Manuel Bartlett Diaz directed the work.

[Begin recording] [Bartlett] As it was agreed during the previous CFE meeting, we are here today to learn the results of the elections held in the country's five [word indistinct] electoral districts. The electoral organizations have fulfilled their duties and provided us with the figures. I ask the CFE's technical secretary to report on the commission.

[CFE official] Nationwide, the political parties obtained the following total votes: National Action Party: 2,831,248 votes or 16.69 percent; PRI: 10,981,938 votes or 64.76 percent; People's Socialist Party: 441,567 votes or 2.60 percent; Mexican Democratic Party: 507,710 votes of 2.29 percent; United Socialist Party of Mexico: 602,530 votes or 3.55 percent; Workers Socialist Party: 592,822 votes or 3.49 percent; Revolutionary Workers Party: 289,626 votes or 1.70 percent; Authentic Party of the Mexican Revolution: 416,780 votes of 2.45 percent; Mexican Workers Party: 291,127 votes or 1.71 percent. The total of votes cast was: 16,955,348. [end recording]

ELECTORAL COUNCIL OFFICIALLY DECLARES GOVERNORS

FL221608 [Editorial Report] Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish at 2000 GMT 21 July reports that the Electoral Council has officialy declared PRI candidate Florencio Salazar Martinez as governor-elect of the State of San Luis Potosi.

Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish at 2040 GMT on 21 July reports that PRI candidate Mariano Palacios Alcocer has been officialy declared governor-elect of the State of Queretaro. He will hold office from 1 October 1985 through 30 September 1991.

MARTINEZ VERDUGO ON KIDNAPPING, CAPTIVITY

PA192306 Mexico City XEW Televison Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] During a press conference held with the media after being released by his kidnappers, Arnoldo Martinez Verdugo, leader of the Unfified Socialist Party of Mexico [PSUM], stressed that he was not mistreated by his kidnappers. He discussed his kidnapping saying that he was taken from the socialist labor movement's studies center by a group of men who immediately identified themselves as members of the Poor People's Party. They took him to a place he could not identify, where he remained during his 17-day confinement blindfolded at all times and with his ears covered part of the time so that he could not identify his abductors or guards. He said that to be frank, other than these limitations to his senses, he was not subject to any physical violence, mistreatment, or abuse.

Martinez Verdugo condemned kidnappings and said he hoped that they will not be repeated in our society. He publicly expressed his thanks for the solidarity of various organizations and members of his party. He especially thanked the news media.

Felix Bautista, the other PSUM member who was kidnapped on 22 February, explained that he was always subject to pressures, harsh discussions, accusations of theft, and even sentenced by what his abductors described as a revolutionary authority. He also said that he was blindfolded most of the time; therefore he does not know where he was confined or who kidnapped him.

SEPULVEDA DEPARTS FOR CONTADORA GROUP MEETING

PA210414 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 21 Jul 85

[Text] It is imperative for the Central American countries to firmly and decidedly contribute to the achievement of peace and stability in the region. It is urgently necessary for all of these countries to advocate the negotiation process, given the negative evolution of various conflictive factors in the area. These are the theses that will be advocated by Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda during the Contadora Group's 2-day meeting in Panama City which begins tomorrow.

This meeting of the Contadora Group is aimed at identifying actions that advocate a climate of detente in Central America. Foreign Secretary Sepulveda, who left today to attend the new meeting, is accompanied by Deputy Secretary Ricardo Valero; Manuel Rodriguez, chief of advisers; and Claude Heller, director at the United Nations.

GDR OFFICIAL, DE LA MADRID ON RELATIONS

PA210411 Paris AFP in Spanish 0649 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] Mexico City, 18 Jul (AFP) -- Wolfgang Beyreuther, GDR state secretary for labor and wages, left Mexico today for Nicaragua after meeting with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid and Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda.

Beyreuther, who arrived here en route to Nicaragua, where he will attend the festivities to commemorate the sixth anniversary of the Sandinist revolution's victory, said to the press that issues related to the bilateral relations between the two countries were discussed during his meeting with De la Madrid.

Referring to a decrease in oil prices, the GDR state secretary denounced the fact that countries such as the UK and the United States do not exploit their own resources to increase their reserves and speculate on the international markets, which compels oil-producing countries to reduce their prices.

Referring to the conflict between the United States and Nicaragua, Beyreuther said it is "a base action to threaten the Nicaraguan people with an invasion" and added: "We will do everything possible, in cooperation with our allies, to warn the United States that it should abstain from taking such a step."

Comments on Nicaragua

FL192020 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0315 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 18 Jul (NOTIMEX) -- Wolfgang Beyreuther, GDR state secretary for labor and wages, asserted today that all free countries and governments must prevent an invasion of Nicaragua and must help that nation achieve its economic development.

Before leaving for Nicaragua, where he will attend the events marking the sixth anniversary of the Sandinist revolution victory, he added that only when borders are quiet can the peoples' peaceful and revolutionary processes take place in the economic and other areas.

He stressed that the presence of U.S. ships off the Nicaraguan coasts endanger peace in the area and urged that they be withdrawn because they merely worsen existing problems.

AIRLINE WORKERS STAGE SLOWDOWN; FLIGHTS AFFECTED

PA220453 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Jul 85

[Text] There is real chaos at Mexico City International Airport, as has been occurring in the rest of the country since yesterday. Hundreds of flights have been delayed and many have been canceled as a result of a work slowdown by airline company workers who have resorted to this maneuver to force the airlines to grant them their demand for a wage increase.

The workers are requesting a wage increase, but the airlines are saying no. As usual, the public is paying the consequences. Thousands of passengers are going from one airline to the other trying to obtain information on flights but wherever they go they run into the same problem: no flights. The people are protesting because they have paid for their tickets but they cannot fly on schedule. They are passengers who have been waiting for approximately 36 hours because their flights were cancelled and they have been trying, in vain, to obtain a seat in other lines.

The airport's main waiting room and its corridors are crowded with people who have no other alternative but to sit on the floor and wait. The cafeterias, restaurants, and other areas where food is sold are crowded with people who are waiting at the airport to catch their flights.

Aero Mexico issued a communique promising to provide a definite solution to the problem within 48 hours. This is not very good news for those who have already spent 2 days waiting for their flights to depart.

Meanwhile, at Minochitlan Airport in Coatzacoalco, Veracruz, the passengers of Mexicana de Aviacion who were planning to board the plane for Mexico City at 1500 yesterday were told a little past midnight, when they were about to board the plane, that the flight was canceled because the pilots had just finished their shift and could not fly anymore that day. The 250 passengers who were scheduled to take that flight went ahead and boarded the plane and refused to leave. Airport authorities asked public forces for assistance in removing the passengers from the plane, but many of the passengers refused to leave and demanded that the airline comply with the agreement established when they bought the tickets to take them to Mexico City. This morning the situation remained unchanged.

STEEL EXPORTS TO U.S. TO DECLINE IN 1985

FL191935 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0130 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Excerpt] Moneterrey, Mexico, 18 Jul (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's steel exports will decline by 60 percent this year as compared to 1984 due to the U.S. Government's restrictions, Miguel Alessio Robles, director of Mexican Iron and Steel Works, has announced. According to the official, by late 1985 Mexico will have exported 200,000 tons of steel to the United States, as compared to last year's 500,000 tons.

BELIZE

GOVERNMENT DENIES PLANS TO LEAVE CARICOM

FL201640 Bridgetown CANA in English 2204 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, July 19, CANA -- Belize says its complaints about the Caribbean Community (Caricom) are not unique, but it is nevertheless committed to ensuring that the integration experment works and that it emerges from present difficulties. The government's position with regard to Caricom was emphasized today by Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel in the wake of misconceptions that Belize was thinking of pulling out of the 13-nation community.

This English-speaking Central American state has complained that it was not getting enough from its Caricom membership, and tariff protection given to Caricom goods was pushing up the prices of foreign products which form the bulk of Belize's imports.

With regard to WISCO, the Caricom-owned shipping line, Esquivel said Belize's complaints about the loss-making service were similar to those of other member states and the government feels the service should be shut down if it cannot make a profit. Belize said it will not treat payment of its bill to WISCO totalling 302,000 dollars (one Bel dollar: 49 cents U.S.) as a priority as none of WISCO's ships call here. Esquivel said Belize was not withdrawing from WISCO and was willing to join other member states in an effort to pull the shipping line out of the current problems.

TRADE SURPLUS WITH CARICOM COUNTRIES EXPANDED

FL200357 Bridgetown CANA in English 2231 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, July 19, CANA -- Belize expanded its trade surplus with the Caribbean Community (Caricom) last year to 18.1 million dollars (one Bel dollar: 49 U.S. cents), according to the Central Statistical Office.

Imports from other Caribbean Community (Caricom) countries fell from 4.8 million dollars in 1983 to 3.9 million dollars in 1983 with a further drop to 3.5 million dollars last year. The value of exports to Caricom countries, however, rose from 14.3 million dollars in 1982 to 18.7 million dollars in 1983 and 22 million dollars last year.

The country's major exports to Caricom are concentrated citrus to Tinidad and Togago and timber to Jamaica. Belize's overall trade gap widened from 68 million dollars in 1983 to 70 million dollars last year, the first increase since 1981.

The Central Bank of Belize also reported that the trade deficit narrowed by 16.6 million dollars to 7.5 million dollars for the first quarter of this year, but the prospects for Belize's trade performance remain uncertain.

Targeted production of the 1985 sugar crop was revised downwards from 110,000 tons to 102,500 tons because of bad weather and the crisis in the sugar industry which led to the closure of the Libertad sugar factory. Sugar is Belize's main hard currency earner.

Earnings from citrus continued to increase for the first quarter of 1985 but citrus exports were down at the 1984 rate.

The Central Statistical Office said that following a high gross import worth 324 million dollars in 1981, imports fell to 256 million dollars in 1982 and again downward to 224 million in 1983. However, this trend was reversed by the end of 1984 when gross imports increased by 35 million dollars up to 259 million dollars.

Projections by the statistical office indicate that by the end of 1985 gross imports will again take a dip down to 253 million dollars due to a cut back on imports for domestic consumption and a drop in imports from Caricom.

Belize imported mainly Colgate toothpaste and other Colgate products from Jamaica and footwear from Trinidad and Tobago. However, with the drop in the value of the Mexican peso it has been cheaper for Belize to import Colgate products manufactured in Mexico. There has also been a reduction in the import of footwear from Trinidad and Tobago and more shoes are now being imported into Belize from Taiwan by way of the United States.

Belize is now seeking to establish stronger trade arrangements with Far East countries. A private sector delegation including representatives of the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Trade, officials in the office of economic development of the Ministry of Finance along with Deputy Tourism Minister Henry Young have just returned to Belize from a tour of Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan and South Korea where they were on an investment and trade promotion mission.

COSTA RICA

MONGE CRITICIZES MEJIA STAND ON NICARAGUA

PA230223 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1330 GMT 21 Jul 85

[Text] Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge has said: Although I respect all of the opinions of the other presidents, I cannot say the same for those of [Guatemalan Head of State] General Oscar Mejia Victores. The president made the statement when referring to the Guatemalan president's remarks, adding: Unfortunately, we cannot say the same because we have been unable to have normal and respectful relations with the Nicaraguan Government. The Guatemalan president reportedly said that the Central American countries should be able to coexist with the communism prevailing in Nicaragua.

GUTIERREZ SPEAKS TO COMMISSION ABOUT OAS MEETING

PA210302 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] Costa Rica has always preferred to have issues of international importance handled by the United Nations. However, the OAS can handle regional problems. Since the Contadora Group member countries are OAS members, there is no reason why the Contadora Group cannot continue handling problems affecting the Central American region, said Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez to the Legislative Assembly Foreign Affairs Commission regarding Costa Rica's recent participation at the OAS. The members of the Foreign Affairs Commission expressed their interest in learning more about the government's foreign policy.

Foreign Minister Gutierrez gave a detailed reporte on the Las Crucitas incident and on the report submitted to the OAS. According to Gutierrez the results of the OAS meeting were favorable to Costa Rica.

He said that the fact that the OAS appointed an investigating commission and approved the report submitted by the commission, are in themselves significant gains that Costa Rica can use in the future.

On the other hand, Foreign Minister Gutierrez did not discard the possibility of more border incidents with Nicaragua. I might seem pessimistic, he said to the Foreign Affairs Commission, but border incidents with Nicaragua like the one at Las Crucitas in which two Costa Rican civil guardsmen were killed and nine wounded will happen again. Gutierrez said that before leaving for Washington he talked with some news media directors, among them the director of the newspaper LA REPUBLICA, who expressed the opinion that Costa Rica could feel satisfied if the OAS approved the commission's report. According to Gutierrez, Costa Rica only had 17 votes and a minimum of 20 votes are necessary for the OAS to take any action against one of its members. He added: I think that our country could have launched a campaign to explain its position and the situation we are facing with Nicaragua. However, when some sectors learned that the government was going to send representatives to several Latin American countries for this purpose, they opposed the idea arguing that it was an unnecessary expense.

Meanwhile, Nicaragua has not stopped its propaganda campaign, not only on this continent but also throughout the world, said Foreign Minister Gutierrez. Gutierrez insisted that Costa Rica should have a team of capable representatives who can explain our opinion about democracy, neutrality, and social justice to other countries.

DEPUTY SECURITY MINISTER ON LEFTIST ACTIVITY

FL221200 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1915 GMT 21 Jul 85

[Text] San Jose, 21 Jul (NOTIMEX) -- Johnny Campos, Costa Rican deputy security minister, has said Cuba has provided military training to 700 Costa Rican leftists during the past few years. He reported that public safety organs have detected periodic trips to Cuba which lasted several months by 50 leftists.

Campos also denounced students with university scholarships granted by communist countries who, upon their return to the country, take part in subversive activities. The deputy minister denounced communist subversion and espionage in Costa Rica, but admitted not enough attention has been given to the extreme right.

The Communist Party has a security division, therefore, there is no doubt they are preparing themselves militarily, he added. The official mentioned that weapons and war equipment were found and confiscated at community leader Manuel Mora Valverde's home. This is evidence that they are organized militarily, Campos stressed.

The deputy minister asserted that communist infiltration has been detected in public offices such as ministries, police organs, and the presidential house. Campos explained that safety organs have made investigations but denounced their passiveness and weak reaction to the facts. He also acknowledged little attention has been given to the extreme right but said they have less possibilities of taking action. He asserted that the right is at a more primitive level than the left and that it is mainly composed of people who oppose the Sandinist regime.

RURAL GUARD SEIZES WEAPONS IN SAN CARLOS CANTON

PA220151 Paris AFP in Spanish 1546 GMT 21 Jul 85

[Text] San Jose, 21 Jul (AFP) -- Rural assistance guards seized weapons and arrested two Costa Ricans in San Carlos canton, in the northern part of the country, according to information released by Colonel Pedro Arias, deputy director of the Rural Guard.

The officer explained that the seizure, which took place in a commercial establishment in Ciudad Quesada, consisted of four Soviet-made AK-47 rifles, a 41-CAL submachine gun, and 300 rounds of ammunition for these weapons.

Arias said that the two arrested, whose surnames are Martinez and Sanchez, are being investigated to establish their connection with the clandestine mobilization of arms in the area. Arias noted that the Rural Guard is determined "to stop black market arms in San Carlos where the sale of all types and sizes of weapons is no secret." "The place is flooded with weapons," said Arias referring to the situation in that border canton plagued by anti-Sandinist elements who operate and trade in the area.

Early this week, the Rural Guard in San Carlos seized medicine and military supplies from two foreigners, allegedly anti-Sandinist group envoys.

AUTHORITIES ARREST ARMED NICARAGUANS, SEIZE GUNS

PA221546 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Jul 85

[Text] Two Nicaraguans were arrested yesterday in the sector of Barra del Tortuguero, and the authorities seized military materiel from them. The two have been identified as Alonso Crisanto Lopez and Victoriano Zambala Martinez, who were traveling in a fiberglass boat. They were coming from the place known as Laguna de Perlas, in Nicaragua. The Rural Guard seized two AK-47 submachine guns, nine 6.52-mm ammunition clips, one 7.65-mm pistol, and two more clips. Both the materiel and the Nicaraguans will be put at the disposal of the judicial authorities.

PUN ASSEMBLY CHOOSES PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

PA180003 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 7 Jul 85 p 2

[Text] Yesterday, in a National Assembly, the National Union Party [PUN] chose candidates for president and vice president, in a ceremony held in Ciudad Quesada, the place where the PUN was founded in 1943 with Otilio Ulate Blanco as its leader. Dr Oscar Aguilar Bulgarelli, a deputy who crossed over from the Social Christian Unity Party, was elected candidate for president of the Republic by acclamation.

In a speech, Aguilar Bulgarelli, 55, attacked the Unity Party and the National Liberation Party [PLN] "because they are twins" and because they "get together on everything." Aguilar said that they will fight tirelessly throughout the entire country in order to wave the flag of "political decency." He referred to corruption, and said that in his party "there is no room for the corrupt. Let them go to other parties which do take them in." He pointed out that "PUN's actions in political, social and economic aspects will be guided and determined by specific doctrinaire principles."

He said: "The leaders of traditional parties see political action, not as a civic service enterprise, but as a chance to waste enormous amounts of money for purely electoral purposes, without caring that they do so at the expense of thousands upon thousands of taxpayers." Aguilar called on Costa Ricans to join the PUN and thus participate in a "political movement that is serious, clean, consolidated, ideological democratic and closely identified with the principles and values that make up the Costa Rican spirit." He said that national democracy has to be fortified "by means of the principles of solidarity and participation."

The vice presidential candidates were also proclaimed at this assembly.

Chosen by acclamation was Nini Chinchilla de Mora, who converted from the PLN, for first vice president and Juan Francisco Montealegre for second vice president. Professor Chinchilla Mora, 60, said that "the battle which we have to fight in Costa Rica to maintain democracy is very harsh." She called for all Costa Ricans to join the PUN in this electoral campaign. Montealegre, 50, an engineer and the former general manager of the National Institute of Housing and Development, insisted that "the PUN is a trench for all Costa Ricans who love their country." Montealegre added: "The PUN is a party without obligations." It was announced that there will be a national assembly in San Jose on 19 August, to prepare everything and to begin more vigorously the fight to win.

Delegates from 7 provinces and 81 cantons attended the assembly in Ciudad Quesada yesterday.

EL SALVADOR

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS DENOUNCE 'STATE TERRORISM'

PA200300 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 17 Jul 85 p 29

[Paid advertisement by the Association of University Students, AEU; the General Association of Salvadoran University Students, AGEUS; and the Central Confederation of University Workers, CCTU; date and place not given]

[Text] Following the publication of a communique in which the Secret Anticommunist Army, ESA, announced that 11 members of the university community had been sentenced to death, the university community reports to the Salvadoran people and the international community that the government of Jose Napoleon Duarte, the extreme right death squads, and the U.S. Embassy have reached a political agreement.

In order to continue to deceive the U.S. Congress with false reports on the progress made by the Christian Democratic government on human rights, the Reagan administration through its embassy in our country, Duarte's government, and the fratricidal death squads, one of them the ESA, agreed that the death squads should take a tactical recess, while the U.S. Congress approved the funds necessary to continue the interventionist and aggressive war against the Salvadoran people.

Two days after the House of Representatives approved funds for the warmongering campaign, in a maneuver that constitutes a slap in the face to the U.S. Congress, the Reagan administration and the Salvadoran Government relieved the death squads of their commitment by assigning them the mission of terrorizing the university community. This is how the Duarte government is responding to the legal and constitutional struggle of the University of El Salvador which is for reasoning instead of violence.

The regime, unable to deny the charges of unconstitutionality in its economic blockade of the university, has resorted to this devious path of state terrorism to try to intimidate the leaders of the university community so they will give up their worthy struggle and leave the field open to those controlled by the regime, so that eventually they will bring about the progressive and silent collapse of the university.

During the march to demand funds for the university, in which thousands of university students marched along the main streets of the capital, groups of heavily armed men, dressed in civilian clothes broke into the university campus and kidnapped several members of the university community. These armed men turned out to be members of the security corps, who later on admitted the kidnapping and are holding our companions. Apparently, the Duarte government's new tactic is to persecute those Salvadorans, who accuse the regime of violating the Constitution, either by threatening to kill them or just to go ahead and eliminate them and then put the blame on the death squads.

We call on the president of the Republic to stop violating the Constitution, which he swore to respect when he took office, and we also demand that he stop the terrorist actions against the unions, whose only sin is and will be to struggle for their legal rights and to demand that the country be run by the Constitution.

Stop the economic blockade of the university! Stop the death threats against university students!

Duarte is using state terrorism. This is not democracy.

DUARTE VISIT TO GUATEMALA CALLED 'DISASTROUS'

PA222214 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 21 Jul 85

[Station commentary: "Another Slap for Duarte"]

[Text] No (?joint) communique or pretty speech about the famous joint interests of El Salvador and Guatemala can conceal what was made evident in the past few days. The meeting that Napoleon Duarte held with Guatemalan President [as heard] General Mejia Victores was as disastrous as Duarte's previous meeting with Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova.

Although Duarte wanted the people to believe that in his meeting with the Guatemalan president they would discuss economic topics, the true purpose was evident. He wanted to obtain Guatemala's political support for the implementation of counterinsurgency and counterrevolutionary plans that the Ronald Reagan and Napoleon Duarte governments are promoting in Central America. Gen Mejia Victores' reply was a categorical and frank no. In other words, a big, albeit diplomatic slap in the face.

While Duarte and his generals are increasingly voicing more warmongering threats against Nicaragua, Gen Mejia said in his meeting with Duarte that Guatemala does not have any problems with the Sandinist government. While Duarte publicly promotes military alliances against Nicaragua, the Guatemalan head of state says: No, Mr Duarte, at least not with us; we are for the self-determination of peoples. [Words indistinct] the total failure in Honduras of Duarte, who seems more like a roving U.S. ambassador than the president of a government. If Gen Mejia Victores gave him a slap in the face, what the Hondurans gave Duarte was more like a kick in the behind. Far from thanking him for his offer to support them in an alleged war against Nicaragua, the Hondurans told him: No, Mr Duarte, we are not going to war, particularly not in alliance with you.

It is quite evident that what Duarte is seeking is someone to help him resolve the problem that he cannot solve, even with the U.S. military aid. It is the problem of losing the war against the FMLN. The fact that neither Honduras nor Guatemala want to involve themselves in a military alliance with the Duarte regime has a simple explanation. No one seeks an alliance with losers.

Mr Duarte is known throughout Central America as a loser. There is something that Duarte does not understand and that leads him to such diplomatic disasters as those he suffered in the meetings with the Honduran and Guatemalan presidents. Aware of the hegemonistic and interventionist role that the United States plays with regard to its so-called Central American allies, Duarte does not realize that there are different levels of dependence on the United States. While Duarte is Washington's total puppet without any possibility of defending his country's national interests, the governments of neighboring countries, although they depend on the United States, at least know how to sell themselves more expensively. In other words, [words indistinct] the interests of their countries and their oligarchies. The [words indistinct] that Duarte [words indistinct] is the following: He is the only one that does not have this space. In this Central American game, he is the only one who has nothing to offer because he has already sold everything, including national sovereignty [words indistinct].

Those who, like Duarte, carry out politics solely on the basis of the U.S. interests and not their national interest cannot understand that there are differences between the Honduran and Salvadoran Governments and between the Guatemalan and Salvadoran Governments, even though in the end each of these countries depends on Washington. No Central American government, (?with the exception) of the Salvadoran Government, needs to prostitute itself the way that Duarte prostitutes himself with the United States in the conflict between the United States and Nicaragua. No government other than the Salvadoran Government unconditionally supports all the military, political, and economic aggressions that the United States carries out against Nicaragua. The explanation is simple. No Central American government other than the Salvadoran Government has the gringos as its sole basis of support.

VENCEREMOS SCOFFS AT $100,000 REWARD OFFER

PA221913 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 20 Jul 85

[Text] The U.S. Embassy and the high command are offering a $100,000 reward for information on the executioners of the gringos in Zona Rosa. Can't they understand that we, the FMLN, are responsible for carrying out popular justice? We are in Guazapa, Chalatenango, Morazan, San Vicente, Santa Ana, Usulutan. They can come for us anywhere. If they want to come for us, they should bring their $100,000, because we will also receive it. Do not forget that not one inch of the homeland will be safe for the enemies of the people, much less for the interventionist invaders. We are waiting for them!

GUATEMALA

MALDONADO'S RESIGNATION BREAKS UNC-PNR ALLIANCE

PA172114 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 2350 GMT 16 Jul 85

[Text] Jorge Carpio Nicolle presidential candidate of the Union of National Center [UCN], has announced that the alliance with the National Renovating Party [PNR] has been broken in view of the withdrawal of vice presidential candidate Alejandro Maldonado Aguirre. Carpio Nicolle added that the PNR and the UCN split because Maldonado Aguirre told him he did not wish to run for vice president on the UCN ticket, as he expects to run for president in 5 years.

UCN presidental candidate Carpio Nicolle added that the UCN is not really affected by Maldonado Aguirre's withdrawal from the alliance inasmuch as all the polls showed that the UCN alone will win the elections.

Carpio Nicolle added that he was surprised at Maldonado Aguirre's decision to not run for vice president on his ticket and with the PNR's decision to withdraw from the alliance. Carpio Nicolle added that Maldonado Aguirre is planning to join the Revolutionary Party [PR] and other groups in order to negotiate his nomination for president of the Republic.

Maldonado Aguirre, former vice presidential candidate of the UCN, is now an independent and has announced that he is seeking an alliance with the PR and other sectors akin to the PNR ideology. He added that he has already made the first contacts with Mario Fuentes Pieruccini, PR secretary general, in order to establish an alliance in which he [Maldonado Aguirre] would be the presidential candidate. Today Maldonado Aguirre withdrew from the vice presidential nomination he obtained through his party's alliance with the UCN, leaving Jorge Carpio Nicolle all alone as the UCN presidential candidate.

Maldonado on Resignation

PA181506 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 17 Jul 85

[Text] The centrist alliance formed by four political parties was dissolved today, less than 4 months before the presidential elections, when Alejandro Maldonado Aguirre, the vice presidential candidate of the UCN-PNR alliance, announced his resignation. Maldonado Aguirre, main leader of the National Renovating Party, PNR, said that his party was losing its political and ideological identity in its association with the Union of the National Center, UCN, which is the party of presidential candidate Jorge Carpio Nicole.

The possibility that the Revolutionary Party, PR, will nominate Maldonado Aguirre as its presidential candidate, could be the real motive for his decision to end the alliance with the UCN. As a matter of fact, Maldonado Aguirre has been holding talks with PR leaders. These talks have become more frequent and during the past week; Maldonado Aguirre and Mario Fuentes Pieruccini, PR secretary general, held a meeting in a house located in Zone 10 of this capital.

Observers were not surprised by Maldonado Aguirre's decision, even though the UCN-PNR alliance seemed solid. They mentioned a number of inconsistencies in Maldonado Aguirre's activities. At one time he was a congressman for the National Liberation Movement, MLN, on another occasion presidential candidate for the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, and until yesterday, he was vice presidential candidate of the UCN-PNR alliance. Maldonado Aguirre met today with PR leaders in the home of Mario Fuentes Pieruccini. When he came out of the meeting he confirmed to newsmen his decision to end the UCN-PNR alliance.

[Begin recording] [Maldonado Aguirre] I have talked to Mario Fuentes on several occasions, but we have not talked at any time about the possibility of a presidential candidacy as fundamental condition for our talks.

[Reporter] Sir, what was the nature of your talks?

[Maldonado Aguirre] We talked about our parties. As you know, a politician is like a man riding a bicycle: If he stops pedalling, he falls.

[Reporter] Could you tell us the reasons for your resignation as vice presidential candidate?

[Maldonado Aguirre] The truth is that the PNR was gradually losing its identity, its political image, and its characteristics. The PNR now has time to think things over. We are analyzing the situation, and we know that at this moment the country needs creative and imaginative alternatives and above all to have a person with whom it can clearly identify itself. For this reason, I personally told Jorge Carpio Nicole to relieve me of my commitment to run on his presidential ticket. I must say that Jorge Carpio Nicole, like the gentlemen he is, agreed with me that this is probably not the best moment for us to join efforts and therfore, he relieved me of my commitment to be his candidate for the vice presidency. However, I did remind him that my commitment was always conditioned to certain factors, which changed later on. Despite this, I continued to honor our agreement out of pure loyalty, but I also realized that my party, the PNR, was losing its ideological objectives, its political identity, and it was necessary for us to do something to recover all this.

[Reporter] Now that you no longer are a vice presidential candidate, is there a possibility that you will be the presidential candidate of a PR-PNR alliance?

[Maldonado Aguirre] These are decisions that the political parties will have to make. I was invited today by the PR Executive Council to exchange opinions, to set forth PNR's political objectives, and at the same time, to see in what aspects we coincide with the PR, so that we can plan on drafting a common platform. I accepted the invitation. We talked extensively and discussed our views thoroughly. It is up to the members of the PR National Executive Council to decide what they want. Meanwhile, the PNR will wait. We do realize that it is our duty to participate in the elections, alone if necessary. We feel that at this stage, Guatemala needs persons capable of obtaining the support of the majority of the people to try to solve the serious problems we are facing. [end recording]

HONDURAS

CLARIFICATION OF UK VISITOR'S STATEMENT ISSUED

PA181712 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 17 Jul 85 p 47

[Statement issued by the Information Office of the Honduran Foreign Affaris Secretariat in Tegucigalpa on 16 July]

[Text] The 16 July issues of the Honduran newspapers carried statements by Campbell Christie, who called on the Honduran foreign secretary with several British Parliament members with whom he is touring Central American and the Caribbean. The British Parliament members and labor leaders, including Campbell Christie, met with the foreign secretary for 1 hour on 16 July. During that meeting the visitors asked the foreign secretary to brief them on the Central American crisis, the current status and expectations regarding the Contadora Group's peace-seeking efforts, Honduran-Nicaraguan and Honduran-Salvadoran relations, and the influence of the Honduran-U.S. relations on the regional crisis.

Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica reviewed these topics openly, candidly, and cordially with the visitors, who thanked him for his thorough presentation of these topics and his answers to their questions. The foreign secretary explained that the Honduran Government is preeminently democratic and that it is now engaged in a process to consolidate democracy and strengthen institutions and the people's decisionmaking power in matters of national and international interest.

Close to the end of the meeting, Mr Campbell Chrisite asked the foreign secretary about the human rights situation in Honduras.

He said that he had met earlier with several people who told him that there have been cases of missing people, illegal arrests, and politically motivated killings since 1980.

Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica briefed the visitors on the situation, indicating that the present administration entered office in 1982 and that the cases Mr Christie had been informed about should be further investigated in order to preserve truth and avoid half-truths. He told the visitors that the president of the Republic and the commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces are especially interested in clarifying these cases and described them as isolated incidents that are not part of a systematic policy.

He added that the human rights situation has improved since the internal reorganization of the Armed Forces in March 1983. The foreign secretary explained that the Armed Forces designated an investigating commission to look into cases like those described by the British visitor and said that the Honduran Government wants to resolve this problem because an authentic democracy is based on the promotion and respect for human rights.

The Foreign Secretariat thus wishes to clear up misunderstandings that the 16 July editions of the local newspapers may have reported with regard to this matter and all mistaken or subjective interpretations made by the labor leader who is part of the delegation of British Parliament members who are touring Central America, in light of the fact that Mr Christie personally expressed satisfaction with the clarity of the foreign secretary's presentation.

NATIONAL CONGRESS MEMBERSHIP TO INCREASE

PA202358 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Excerpts] The next National Congress will be comprised of 132 deputies, as approved yesterday at the legislative chamber by a coalition of members of the Innovation and Unity Party [PINU], the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], the official sector of the Liberal Party of Honduras [PLH], and the National Party of Honduras [PNH].

The session, which was followed by the Honduran people with expectation because they eventually pay for whatever is done in Congress, started late in the morning and continued until the evening hours. PINU leader Miguel Andonie Fernandez presented a motion for the members to vote individually on this issue.

Even before the motion was discussed and votes cast, it was clear that the motion had been approved. This clearly demonstrated that the indivdual vote would eventually be approved. Azconista Deputy Carlos Orbin Montoya clearly stressed that this is the first time individual votes have defeated a commission ruling, a draft project, or bill at the chamber.

Meanwhile, [National Congress President] Bu Giron said that it was necessary to begin saving in order to cover the great expenses that will be incurred by the next National Congress. He warned the deputies who voted for the motion that they would not receive their Christmas bonuses this year.

It was also disclosed yesterday that an initiative will be presented so that the salary for deputies is reduced by at least 1,000 lempiras.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE DURING CELEBRATION

PA201925 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1704 GMT 20 Jul 85

[Press conference with President Daniel Ortega Saavedra during events to commemorate the sixth anniversary of the Sandinist revolution; place not given -- live]

[Text] [Matarolo] Rodolfo Matarolo of Buenos Aires' EL PERIODISTA. Mr President: The situation in Nicaragua and Latin America is followed closely in Argentina. I have two questions. First, what are the concrete results of the recent tour by Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado to several South American countries, including Argentina, on aspects such as possibly reactivating the Contadora Group with participation of Latin American countries joining the Group in the capacity of support commissions, and the measures that the relatively more economically advanced countries can adopt to counter the effects of the trade embargo imposed on Nicaragua by the United States My second question is in connection with the foreign debt. Do you believe that new conditions have arisen in Latin America for a political approach to the debt situation? President Alfonsin is among the statesmen who are promoting a political approach to the foreign debt problem in various ways, including the Mar del Plata meeting.

[Ortega] Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado's tour, during which he met with various Latin American Leaders, including those of th Contadora Group countries, led us to the conclusion that Latin America is concerned about the serious threats looming over Central America, particularly Nicaragua, as a result of the U.S. Government's policy.

There is clear awareness of these serious threats. This is not new to the Latin American leaders, as during earlier meetings I held with several Latin American leaders during presidential inaugurations in South America, their opinion was along similar lines. They are aware of the seriousness of the Central American situation, that Latin America's sovereignty is being threatened in Central America, and therefore, today more than ever, it is necessary that Latin America make special efforts to prevent further military escalation and effectively promote a peaceful solution to all the problems.

This implies more dynamic support to the Contadora Group's peace-seeking efforts. The Contadora Group represents Latin America's spirit in the face of the serious problems that threaten Central America. It is up to the Latin American leaders to decide how they will offer more support to the Contadora Group. However, we found that they are willing to help. The creation of a support commission was discussed, as well as Latin America's participation in establishing a security area on the Nicaragua-Costa Rican border to reduce escalated tension, to prevent its use as a pretext to increase the U.S. military presence in Central America to further threaten Nicaragua.

Regarding Latin America's actions in response to the U.S. embargo against Nicaragua, these are being taken according to each country's capabilities. We have found that the Latin American countries are more than willing to cooperate with Nicaragua, though we are aware that Latin America is experiencing serious economic, financial, and trade exchange problems. They have continued to cooperate with Nicaragua according to capabilities of each one of them, at a time that cooperation is becoming increasingly necessary, as the United States has pressured Nicaragua economically by imposing a trade blockade against us.

Regarding the foreign debt, which cannot be discussed independently from the current status of the international economic order, we can say that we have discussed the problem with various Latin American leaders, including President Alfonsin. The serious and responsible governments of Latin America have reacted unanimously.

Even the efforts for democracy, promoted by some countries, face the risk of being affected by the seriousness of the economic crisis and by the threats that this same effort poses for the economic crisis. One cannot only think of democracy from a political standpoint; democracy is much more integral and includes economic order for the good of the nation and for the good of the different sectors of society.

It appears to us that suggestions regarding the foreign debt and international economic relations are beginning to be heard. These suggestions are gathering force in Latin America. Why in Latin America? The answer is pretty clear: Latin America is carrying the burden of the larger part of the debt, and this is the way Latin America is approaching this situation. It is actively approaching it with initiatives and in a united manner. We find that there is agreement on the part of many regarding the foreign debt.

In general, the suggestions made by President Fidel Castro, President Raul Alfonsin, President-elect Alan Garcia, and the Latin American leaders, have a point in common, independent of these governments' political and ideological tendencies. The point they have in common is the awareness that the problem must be confronted. At this moment there is no agreement on how to confront the problem but there are several ideas on this. However, right in the middle of everything we have the pressure the United States is exerting on the Latin American governments, and in the middle of this we find the policy of blackmail practiced against the Latin American governments. We are certain that the United States has exerted great pressure on the Latin American governments for them not to act, with the force needed, in the defense of the interests of their respective countries. We are now dealing with the survival of the Latin American nations, the survival of the Latin American peoples. These nations are facing a dead end from an economic viewpoint. At this moment, we could speak of a stage in which similar speeches are made from various political and ideological positions, and advancement from this similarity to forming a common front that would allow us to wage this battle effectively for the good of the Latin American peoples.

[Cohen] Robert Cohen of AGENCIA NUEVA NICARAGUA. Commander, yesterday during your speech you spoke of Nicaragua's acceptance of the verification and control mechanism proposed by the Contadora Group. I would like you to expand on this within the framework of the current Contadora Group negotiations and give your views regarding this process.

[Ortega] Before the Contadora Group presented its peace and security document, the United States was saying that Nicaragua did not want a negotiated solution through the Contadora Group. When the Contadora Group presented its peace and security document on 7 September 1984, Nicaragua accepted it on 21 September. Then, the United States began saying that Nicaragua's attitude was propagandistic and demagogic, that we had no real desire to support the Contadora Document, and that we refused to accept the verification and control mechanisms. They continued to say that without the verification and control mechanisms the document was worthless.

We accepted the document as it was, and we continue to accept the 7 September document that includes the verification and control mechanisms. However, since the United States has not accepted the Contadora peace document and the Central American governments -- Honduras, Costa Rica, and El Salvador -- which abide by U.S. policy have not accepted this peace proposal, Contadora, in an attempt to advance and since the document was not being accepted as a whole, proposed that the document be discussed section by section and that its approval be carried out section by section.

This was done because Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and the United States itself were not accepting the document as a whole. Within this spirit, the Contadors Group called a meeting on 13 or 14 April -- I do not remember when exactly -- in Panama City. Companero Victor Hugo Tinoco participated in that meeting.

At that meeting, the Contadora Group presented a proposal for verification and control mechanisms. This proposal was immediately accepted by Nicaragua and rejected by Honduras, Costa Rica, and El Salvador. They said that they could not accept the proposal as presented because the proposal had to be discussed, and even if they did agree with the proposal they would first have to consult their governments. The meeting was then temporarily suspended to give the representatives of Costa Rica, Honduras, and El Salvador time to consult their governments regarding the proposal, and to give the leaders of those three countries an opportunity to discuss this with the United States. Next came the order that the proposal should not be accepted, and it was not. They began to question the proposal and make suggestions. The Contadora Group recorded the suggestions. Meanwhile, Nicaragua had accepted the proposal.

The day after this meeting the Contadora Group presented a new proposal on verification and control mechanisms that included some of the suggestions presented by the representatives of the United States -- Honduras, El Salvador, and Costa Rica. The new proposal was immediately accepted by Nicaragua and was again rejected by Honduras, El Salvador, and Costa Rica. This has only demonstrated that the United States is not interested in finding a solution to the problem through the Contadora process, which would mean that the problems would be solved through dialogue and negotiation. The United States wants the Contadora Group to remain on the sideline as an alternative; however, in practice they block the Group while they advance along the lines of a military solution for the problems. That is the line that the United States has been promoting throughout the Central American region.

It became clear at the meeting that the United States and those othe countries are the ones that do not want the mechanisms, yet Nicaragua was willing to accept them. Nicaragua is most interested in the existence of these verification and control mechanisms. In this manner it would be possible to verify and control the counterrevolutionary forces that have camps and bases in Honduras and Costa Rica. We have nothing to hide. They can come to Nicaragua and verify whether there are revolutionary forces from Central American countries based here in our country. We are not afraid. There are so such bases here.

[Lugo] Roberto Lugo of Cuban Television. Mr President, we would like to ask two questions. Has the White House or the Pentagon reacted to Nicaragua's response to the U.S. note? What will be the next steps taken by the Sandinist government in this regard?

[Ortega] Until now, we have not heard of any reaction by the U.S. Government. Considering the seriousness and the fact that such a threat -- like the one launched against Nicaragua by the United States -- is not usual, we are addressing ourselves to the countries that comprise the Contadora Group, who will meet in the next few days in Panama, to become aware of this situation. We are also making this situation known to the UN member countries, the Security Council, and to the members of the Nonaligned Movement. A few minutes ago I met with a delegate sent by Rajiv Gandhi on the occasion of the commemoration of the sixth anniversary. Through him, I have sent Prime Minister Gandhi some comments on this subject to be addressed by the Nonaligned Movement over which he presides.

[Ibarra] Efigenio Ibarra of NOTIMEX. In relation to just that issue, the note sent by the U.S. Government appears to be a forceful measure to prevent actions in other Central American countries.

In El Salvador, the FMLN has declared that it will continue to act in the rearguard to destabilize strategic commands, which means continuing to strike at U.S. officers. What would be the result in El Salvador if such a thing occurs again? That is the first question. Commander, the second question is: Ricardo Valero, the deputy foreign secretary of Mexico, has spoken of the inefficiency of the OAS and the need to establish another organization. What is your opinion of this?

[Ortega] The note that the U.S. leaders have sent us is a note that is totally absurd and irrational. That is how we describe it, as an irrational note. However, it has its logic. It is directed above all at preparing the U.S. public to support any action that the United States might launch against Nicaragua. This means that, if in any Central American country, U.S. soldiers, officers, or whatever die as a result of the situation of the Central American region and the particular characteristics and the activity in each Central American country, or if they die in any part of the world -- because the note says in Central America or anywhere else in the world and the U.S. rulers can decide to interpret that Nicaragua was involved in the action of the Shi'ites in Beirut some weeks ago and since the U.S. President is covered by a number of exceptions approved by the U.S. Congress, yielding to the president's pressure and the policy of force -- then the President would use those internal U.S. legal mechanisms to launch an action against a sovereign country like Nicaragua. Therefore, we would have to expect more terrorist actions by the United States against Nicaragua. The note itself is a terrorist action; it is an action of political blackmail against Nicaragua.

As far as the OAS is concerned, we have said that as long as the United States is a member of that organization the nature of the organization will be distorted because the U.S. interests are so different from the interests of the Latin American peoples. In fact, the U.S. interests tend to negate the interests of the Latin American peoples. Therefore, the United States is out of place in that organization with the Latin American countries, just as it would be inappropriate for the OAU to include the countries that formerly colonized the African countries or countries that still maintain colonialist or forceful attitudes toward the African countries. They would be out of place. The OAS should be an organization of Latin American countries where there is no room for the United States. That is the great weakness of that organization. That is why it has been used as a tool by U.S. companies to harm the Latin American peoples. The OAS has been used as a tool to attack the Latin American peoples. The OAS has been used as a tool for attacking Cuba and the Dominican Republic. An attempt was made to use the OAS to invade Nicaragua before the revolutionary triumph. Therefore, the OAS does not truly represent the interests of Latin America. It represents a conflict of interests. For that reason, it cannot be a coherent organization.

The OAS demonstrated that it does not represent Latin America on the occasion of the extracontinental act of aggression in the Malvinas. The OAS supposedly exists for that purpose: to defend Latin America from extracontinental aggression. What did the United States, a member of the OAS, do at that time? Instead of taking the side of Latin America, it was on the side of the extracontinental country that was attacking a Latin American country. Therefore, we clearly realize that as long as the United States is in the OAS the organization will have no credibility. Either the United States withdraws from the OAS or Latin America will have to form an organization that is independent of the United States, not to wage war on the United States but to establish a realistic, serious, high-minded dialogue, a dialogue of respect with the United States since, under the present conditions, that kind of relationship between the United States and Latin America does not exist.

[Unidentified speaker] I am asking this question for this journalist, because she does not speak Spanish. Her name is (Emily Radowski) of (Press Publications) of Chicago, in the United States.

You said that you will never talk with the contras because you claim they are terrorists who are controlled by the United States. Don't you think it would be better to talk with the contras to possibly protect the lives of the peasants in the war zones and free them from the threat of kidnapping, rape, and all of the other atrocities to which they have been exposed to date?

[Ortega] Our main argument in refusing to hold talks with those people is not the fact that they are terrorists, because if that were our argument, how could we talk with the United States, which is the main terrorist? Our argument is that the contras are nothing more than a tool of U.S. policy. It is the U.S. Congress that is debating aid to the contras. It is the U.S. President who defends the contras' activities. It is the U.S. President who has said that if financing of the contras is not continued, they would disappear or be eliminated. Therefore, the contras are a tool that is completely dependent on the policies of the U.S. leaders. Therefore, we would achieve nothing by talking with the tool. It is necessary to talk with those who manage, direct, and encourage that tool, and that is the U.S. Government. It has used a strategy of terrorism against Nicaragua in the military, economic, and political spheres. In the military sphere, its bloody tools are the mercenary forces called the contras. Therefore, it makes no sense to talk with the contras. We must talk with the one who feeds the dog, the United States.

[Zaldivar] Commander, Jose Zaldivar of LA JORNADA of Mexico. Last week contradictory reports were released on the military situation prevailing in the country, specifically in the northern area. My question is: What is the real status of the hostilities in the northern part of the country?

[Ortega] As long as the United States maintains its policy of aggression against Nicaragua, we will have terrorists here; we will have counterrevolutionaries and mercenary forces operating from Honduras and Costa Rica. However, in the past few years we have made advances in the country's defense. We have been advancing in the military organization and defense of the revolution, and we have been able to expel the majority of the mercenary forces to neighboring countries, Honduras and Costa Rica, where they have their camps. This is the reason for the tension with Costa Rica and Honduras. Some time ago, the mercenary forces were able to penetrate to the interior of the country and settle in some mountain areas. However, an offensive was carried out, and we simultaneously hit the mercenary forces at various locations, thanks to the incorporation of thousands of young people in the Patriotic Military Service and the organizing of these young people within Battalions for Unconventioal Warfare. This allowed us to recover those territories and to expel the bulk of the mercenary forces to their main bases in Honduras and Costa Rica.

By stating this, we are not denying the fact that counterrevolutionary forces divided into small units and dedicated to terrorist activities remain in the country. They attack transport units or set fire to transport units -- which is what they did with the ship that takes civilians to Bluefields. They continue to attack health centers and schools and to kill children and women. They are engaged in all kinds of terrorist activities. There are counterrevolutionary groups divided into small units operating in our country. However, the large groups whose objective was liberating Nicaraguan territory and seizing important towns in our country have been broken up and expelled. Therefore, we have advanced in consolidating the defense of the country. We are facing the prospects of a prolonged war if the United States maintains its position of waging war on Nicaragua.

[Martinez] Filadelfio Martinez of ACAN-EFE. A few days ago, Commander Hugo Torres said that there are U.S. warships in the Pacific and that there is fear of a naval blockade against Nicaragua. Not long ago the foreign trade minister said that Nicaragua is prepared for a long-term commercial embargo. However, is Nicaragua prepared to face a naval blockade such as the one Commader Torres had denounced? Can you analyze the fact that the U.S. Congress will meet to try to agree on the amount of aid for the contras?

[Ortega] Nicaragua is facing the U.S. policy of aggression and has no choice but to prepare for everything. This includes a breaking of relations with Nicaragua by the United States, a naval blockade, a renewal of the mining of our ports, air attacks, multiple terrorist actions to support the counterrevolutionary forces, and even direct intervention by U.S. troops to try to occupy our country and destroy the revolutionary process. The plans of the U.S. rulers envisage all these alternatives. We Nicaraguans are getting ready to resist this situation according to our possibilities. Of course, being ready does not mean that we already have all of the resources that will compensate for the damage that would be caused by actions of this nature.

We must point out that the embargo has been a hard blow on the Nicaraguan economy, in spite of the fact that we immediately found solidarity in Western Europe, in socialist countries, in Yugoslavia, and in Latin America and other countries of the world. When one secures cooperation, this cooperation does not become effective the next day. There are contract and cooperation mechanisms that take some time. The cooperation becomes effective in the medium term and has impact in a medium term. However, in the meantime, we suffer the effects of the embargo. The Nicaraguan economy is experiencing losses. We are experiencing losses in production, including exports and domestic consumption articles. Since we know we are facing U.S. aggressive acts, we have made plans to meet every action. We are prepared in the sense that we have plans to meet the actions. However, this does not mean that the implementation of these actions would not represent a serious blow or serious harm to the Nicaraguan people.

[Palacios] Miriam Palacios of the Sistema Sandinista Television Network. The motion for a demilitarized zone on the southern border of Nicaragua has been well taken by the Contadora Group and the other Latin American countries. However, a similar motion [words indistinct] presented by Nicaragua for the border with Honduras, although the Honduran Government has uselessly denied that there are counterrevolutionaries in its territory. I would like for you to tell us something about this.

[Ortega] Before I answer your question, I would like to answer Filadelfio's question. It involves the U.S. Congress.

We are viewing the attitude of the U.S. Congress with much concern. It has been yielding to a policy of force and terror. The U.S. Congress is now authorizing a terrorist policy, a policy that breaks and ignores international law. The very fact that it is discussing the financing of the contras and whether to approve the financing of the contras, the fact that it is discussing the amount of the financing and ways to channel this financing -- through the CIA or organizations called humanitarian, and the fact that it is discussing bills so that the president may exercise his powers in direct actions against Nicaragua is the U.S. Congress' yielding to a militaristic, terrorist policy that harms Nicaragua, true, but that also hurts the United States. It hurts the United States because it is the United States' credibility that will be questioned by the world, and U.S. policy will not be effective because with this policy they will not solve the problems in the Central American region. Instead, they are further unsettling the situation in Central America.

The U.S. Congress, by yielding to this kind of position, is actually contributing to the decomposition of the Central American region and to greater complications of the U.S. policy for the region. They are getting into a swamp. The United States is getting into a swamp here in Central America and they are not thinking about how to get out of this swamp.

Regarding the demilitarized zones, this morning we received information on Costa Rica accepting the Contadora Group and France as participants in this kind of discussion. We believe that this kind of alternative would also be viable in the case of Honduras. Regarding Honduras, we have insisted on many occasions that there are ways to face the situation in the region. One is to control the border region. For example, we have proposed joint patrolling of the border region. Now, there is this alternative. Just as it can be valid for the tense situation that we have in the border area between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, it can be a valid alternative for the tense situation that we have in the border areas between Honduras and Nicaragua. Honduras has been accusing us of launching attacks on Honduran territory, dropping bombs, shelling, carrying out incursions, and so on. Nicaragua continues to point out that the counterrevolutionary camps are in Honduras, and that there are constantly deaths among the Nicaraguan people as a result of the activities of those counterrevolutionary forces based in Honduras. The problem can be solved, or we can begin to solve it by creating security zones in the areas on the border with Honduras with the participation of a multinational force. Therefore, we view this kind of security mechanism as feasible on both the southern and northern borders.

[Question] [Name indistinct] of the U.S. Cable News Network. Does the FSLN support the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers [PRTC] and what is the nature of that support?

[Ortega] We have supported the peaceful solution of problems in the Central American region. We have even taken very specific proposals from the Salvadoran FMLN-FDR to the United Nations. Those proposals call for dialogue and negotiation to find a solution to a crisis that has roots in El Salvador. This is the kind of support that Nicaragua has been giving to the revolutionaries in El Salvador. It is support in favor of the existing problems.

[Velasquez] Juan Velasquez of LA PRENSA. Fifteen days ago the Popular Social Christian Party [PPSC] proposed an internal dialogue excluding the counterrevolutionaries. Why has your government remained silent about this?

[Ortega] I think that the main dialogue that should exist here at this time is the dialogue in the National Constituent Assembly where there are seven political parties, where the PFSC is represented, and which has a task of drafting the constitution. We believe that according to the law, all of the parties that have seats in the National Constituent Assembly must participate in drafting the constitution. The Assembly was established precisely to undertake that task of drawing up the constitution. We also agree that the opinion of other sectors that are not directly participating in the National Constituent Assembly should be heard in drawing up the constitution. Of course, this is the FSLN position which must be discussed by all of the political parties that form part of the National Constituent Assembly.

[Cook] Mark Cook of [words indistinct]. According to diplomatic sources in India, it seems that the Rajiv Gandhi government is interested in improving and developing its relations with Nicaragua. This could be very important for Nicaragua's economy. You have just met with Rajiv Gandhi's personal representative. Can you tell us about the current relations between Nicaragua and India?

[Ortega] We spoke with Rajiv Gandhi's representative about our relations with India with regard to India's role as president of the Nonaligned Movement. Of course, we discussed the U.S. escalation of aggression against Nicaragua and the threatening and unprecedented U.S. notes that remind us of fascist attitudes. The notes sent to Nicaragua by the United States contain fascist characteristics and contents. We spoke of the various problems affecting the Nonaligned Movement's member countries, particularly the economic problem, the problem of the debt, the problem of the international economic order, and so on. We also discussed bilateral relations between India and Nicaragua. In recent months, we have dispatched several delegations that have met with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. A number of cooperation plans between India and Nicaragua have been proposed. These are economic cooperation plans that will probably further strengthen the good relations between India and Nicaragua. This is specifically the case with regard to textiles.

[Iturralde] Carlos Itturralde of Radio Pacifica of Los Angeles. The situation continues to be explosive, and it appears that the U.S. Congress is, as you said, yielding to the policy of force [words indistinct] Latin American countries. Returning to the topic of the Contadora Group, what are the possibilities that countries like Argentina, Peru, and Brazil will join the Group's work so that they will not only verbally support it but also sign the document in order to exert that Latin American pressure? Possibly the [Sandinist] Front contemplates searching for measures that will unite more Latin American countries and, through this effort, possibly create a new mechanism because in reality the OAS does not really function. Also, with the support of Edgar Parrales, who was elected president of the General Assembly, what are the possibilities, and are you seeking this possibility, that more Latin American countries will join and specifically sign and not only verbally support the Contadora Document, which is practically the only solution?

[Ortega] We feel that every day there are increasingly more Latin American countries aware of the seriousness of the Central American situation and of the threat to their own peoples and nations as a result of the explosive situation in Central America, and that there is increasing interest in actively participating in the search for a peaceful solution and therefore of giving increasingly more effective support to the Contadora Group. As we said at the beginning of this press conference, during Vice President Sergio Ramirez' recent visit to Latin American countries we found this stance.

[Question] [Name indistinct] Through Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez, the Costa Rican Government presented to the vice president of the Press Freedom Commission of the Inter-American Press Association a charge regarding Nicaraguan newspapers' refusal to publish the Costa Rican version of recent incidents.
[10-second break in transmission]

[Ortega] The Costa Rican Government press bulletin was published here on a full page of the newspaper LA PRENSA. Therefore, it is false that in Nicaragua there was a prohibition on the publication of the Costa Rican Government communique that expressed its position on the border incident involving the death of two members of the Costa Rican army. Well, thank you very much. There are still more questions.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] This U.S. note is not only aimed at making threats against Nicaragua regarding what they describe as terrorist activities in Central America in which Nicaragua may be allegedly involved, but it also clearly indicates (?in other areas). This is all within the U.S. strategy of consolidating an internal opinion that Nicaragua is a state that practices terrorism in Central America and in other parts of the world. Therefore, it is justified to strike Nicaragua.

Regarding the number of counterrevolutionary forces, the U.S. Government is requesting more aid to raise the number of counterrevolutionary forces to 30,000, raise it from 15,000 to 30,000. *The main body of these counterrevolutionary forces are in Honduras* and Costa Rica. They enter Nicaragua; as some come in others leave. The number of counterrevolutionary forces in Nicaragua fluctuates.

[Tomasa] (Yashiro Tomasa) [words indistinct] Japanese newspaper. I understand that you have said that if the U.S. invades, borders would disappear in Central America. What do you mean when you say that the borders would disappear?

[Ortega] The United States has turned Central America into a theater of war in an attempt to fulfill its objective, which is to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution. They have involved Honduran territory in this, and they are also involving Costa Rican territory. They have also involved the territory that they continue to occupy in Panama. These territories are being used as bases for operations against Nicaragua. They are also using Salvadoran territory. The United States has already involved several territories in its acts of aggression against Nicaragua.

Nicaragua is defending itself within its own territory. U.S. aggression and terrorism is being practiced in Nicaragua. However, should a direct intervention by U.S. troops occur, we are sure that the theater of war will be as large as the United States wants it to be. I am sure that the response to a direct intervention by U.S. troops will not be one that will remain locked up in Nicaragua. The response will be heard outside Nicaraguan territory. I am sure that the response will be at the Central American and the continental level. I am sure that the response against such an act of intervention would even be heard in the United States itself.

[Golden] Tim Golden of THE MIAMI HERALD. Commander, I would like to ask two questions. Regarding the U.S. note, can you tell us what specific action Nicaragua has requested from the Contadora Group and the United Nations and what other steps or measures can Nicaragua take to prevent a situation such as the one described in the U.S. note regarding possible reprisal measures?

[Ortega] The least we can do is call the United States to task what they say they defend and respect. The United States claims that it is fighting against terrorism. Well, anyone fighting against terrorism must practice what they preach; that person must stop acting like a terrorist to fight against terrorism.

International organizations, international opinion, and the whole work must demand that the United States respect international order. If the United States has a complaint against Nicaragua, it must go through the channels established by international law instead of acting on its own. This is the way the United States should act, not only with Nicaragua but throughout the world. The United States is trying to set a precedent by disregarding international law. It has been 40 years since the war ended and the United States wants to forget the horrors of the war; however, it is sending international law to hell. Be doing this they are drawing closer to a third world war that would sweep man off the face of the earth.

[Jackson] [Name indistinct] Jackson of "They Will Not Pass" newscast and [word indistinct] in the FRG. Commander, the support shown by the Nicaraguan people yesterday at the plaza and the solidarity expressed by the delegations at the square shows that Nicaragua is not alone. However, it has been noteworthy that an important political party in the FRG, the Social Democratic Party, was not present during the celebrations. Can you tell us why this party, which on other occasions has expressed its solidarity, was not present for the commemoration of the sixth anniversary?

[Ortega] I can assure you that the Nicaraguan people have not lost the support of that party.

[Prada] Commander, Pedro Prada of Cuba's VERDE OLIVA magazine. The other day Commander Humberto Ortega said that the Nicaraguan people will fight house by house, block by block, neighborhood by neighborhood in defense of the country's sovereignty. You reaffirmed those words yesterday during your speech at the Carlos Fonseca Square. Does this task include the training of all Nicaraguans? I mean will it include women, men, and youths so that they will know how to handle a weapon -- any weapons -- to fight, confront the enemy, and reject an enemy aggression?

[Ortega] We have been developing a number of tasks and plans. These mainly include the preparation of the Nicaraguan people to resist an eventual direct intervention by U.S. troops. At the same time we are fighting the mercenary troops in different ways. We are indirectly fighting a U.S. intervention when we fight the mercenary forces, but we are also training the people to confront a direct action by U.S. troops. This includes the training of each Nicaraguan citizen: of every man, woman, elderly man -- even the children have their tasks during a war, at the time of a U.S. troop intervention. There are also long-term ways to resist. It would require long-term resistance contingencies that would shorten the war to the extent that they were effective against the invading forces. The strategy will be determined by Nicaraguans capabilities in the event of a U.S. military occupation or attempted occupation, and by how many casualties we can inflict on the U.S. troops each day. That is the key to victory.

[Pasos] Commander, Maria Isabel Pasos of AGENCIA NUEVA NICARAGUA. The Contadora Group will meet again in a few days. Can you tell us what Nicaragua's stance will be at that meeting in view of the new threats that the Reagan administration has issued?

[Ortega] I believe the meeting of the Contadora Group deputy foreign ministers -- this will be exclusively a Contadora Group meeting in which the Central American countries will not participate -- will take place today and tomorrow in Panama. We have sent a report on the recent developments with which the United States has further escalated its actions against Nicaragua and, as a result, its obstacles to the Contadora Group's peace-seeking work to each of the Contadora Group governments and to the group itself. The Contadora Group should be aware of the situation so that it can take appropriate actions with regard to the United States in order to create the conditions that will allow the Group to continue its work in connection with the discussion of the Document of Peace and Security of 7 September 1984.

[Toruno] Max Toruno of Catalonia, Spain. Nicaragua constantly stresses the need to hold bilateral talks with the United States at Manzanillo. How fruitful do you believe those talks would be?

[Ortega] The United States used the Manzanillo talks as a pre-electoral propaganda ploy. Before the U.S. elections of November 1984, the U.S. leaders decided to call the talks at Manzanillo. It was a propaganda ploy. At the time the U.S. leaders presented the administration as a Republican government that wanted to bring about peace everywhere, including Central America. However, as soon as the Republican candidate realized he had won the majority of the votes he needed for his reelection, on the evening of election day the Nicaraguan situation again came under fire. The notorious campaign that threatened that actions would be taken against Nicaragua because they claimed Nicaragua was about to bring MIG combat aircraft to Nicaragua began at that time.

The Contadora Group has adopted a position on the Manzanillo talks.

Therefore, their participation in the Manzanillo talks is a propaganda ploy. Nevertheless, we are obliged to continue some form of dialogue. The day the United States is genuinely interested in seeking a peaceful solution with Nicaragua to normalize its relations with this country by discussing all of the security topics they consider important at those talks, then Manzanillo will be a good place to seek solutions.

ORTEGA, RAMIREZ MEET WITH FOREIGN DELEGATIONS

PA221954 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jul 85

[Text] The president and vice president of the Republic, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega and Sergio Ramirez, respectively, as well as members of the FSLN National Directorate and other government officials met yesterday with various foreign delegations participating in the celebrations of the sixth anniversary of the Nicaraguan revolution.

Dr Ramirez met with former Dominican President Juan Bosch and his companion, Luis Jequer Ortiz. He also met with Hugo Camilo, deputy secretary of the Legal Affairs Office of the OAS, and with Pablo Linares, representative of the IDB, among others.

President Ortega met with the delegations of Bulgaria, the FRG, and the GDR, the Vietnamese delegation headed by Vo Van Kiet, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Politburo; and with the Cuban delegation headed by Pedro Miret, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba.

Other members of the FSLN National Directorate, Commanders of the Revolution Bayardo Arce, Carlos Nunez, Henry Ruiz, and Victor Tirado met with the delegates from Canada, Norway, Portugal, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Finland, Australia, Albania, and Mexico, among others.

D'ESCOTO MEETS WITH VISITING IRANIAN MINISTER

LD220818 Tehran IRNA in English 0737 GMT 22 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran July 22 IRNA -- Iran's visiting Minister of Construction Jihad Bijan Zanganeh met with the Nicaraguan Minister of Foreign Affairs Father Miguel D'Escoto in Managua on Monday, and submitted to him a message from his Iranian counterpart Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati marking the anniversary of the victory of the Nicaraguan revolution. The meeting took place at a church where D'Escoto has been staging a political fasting over the past two weeks in protest to America's state terrorism.

Zanganeh declared the Islamic Republic of Iran's support for the Nicaraguan foreign minister's revolutionary measure which he said "attracted the aware human consciences towards the innocence of the Nicaraguan revolution." The Nicaraguan foreign minister thanked Velayati's message and expressed pleasure over the meeting with the Iranian delegation led by Zanganeh.

D'Escoto said his country had tried to reach compromise with the United States politically, however, he added, the U.S. had some temptations and whims in mind which did not belong to a single maniac person or government but was rather the manifestation of a devil system existing in the United States which aimed at forcing Nicaragua to kneel down and worship America instead of God. Nevertheless, he added, the Nicaraguan nation has only one response vis-a-vis these ruthless invasions of the United States, that is, "we only worship the god of Abraham (AS), [peace be upon him], the God of Moses (AS), and the God of Jesus (AS), and fight against the satan. This is what the Almighty asks his creatures to do."

Foreign Minister D'Escoto expressed regret that a church which had begun with the pope and led to the common churches, was supporting the United States, he said "we must try to fulfill our determination." In conclusion of his remarks D'Escoto said he was aware of the imposed Iraqi war and other problems the Iranian nation was faced with, and wished success for the Islamic revolution and the Nicaraguan revolution.

ARCE STRESSES PROCESS OF SANDINIST REAFFIRMATION

PA191636 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 18 Jul 85

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce has indicated that a process of Sandinist reaffirmation will be developed to define what is expected of today's Sandinists, this year in this war. He made the announcement at the Jose Benito Escobar assembly of former collaborators which was held in the Fire Prevention System [Sinacoi] offices in the city of Matagalpa. Award pins were given out during the assembly to more than 40 outstanding collaborators. He also announced that a momument to all those who died for the triumph and the defense of the Sandinist people's revolution will be built on the former site of the Somozist National Guard garrison in Matagalpa.

In his speech Commander Arce, coordinator of the FSLN Political Committee, said that a deep and responsible analysis is being carried out within the FSLN with regard to the march of the revolution in an attempt to find, amid the complex problems of the country, those that have yet to be overcome.

[Begin recording] We began this process with devotion and responsibility at the end of last year. It was precisely here in Region 6 where the FSLN National Directorate, through President Ortega's New Year's message, pointed out many deficiencies and errors in the work of the FSLN as vanguard, in the work of the government, and in the work of the mass revolutionary organizations, and that we all had to make an effort to achieve coherence, rationality, and efficiency. We have been working since November and December 1984 and examining ourselves. We think the fundamental points of the report are ready. We plan to meet again with the Sandinist Assembly to adopt a number of measures that will place the Sandinist Front in a better situation to continue and lead all our people in the construction of the just and free people's Nicaragua, for which we have struggled all these years.

We will develop a process that we describe as a process of Sandinist reaffirmation among all our ranks. We will decide what we expect from today's Sandinists this year, in this war, in this economic crisis. We will ask all our members to think about this. Those who feel they are ready and willing to make efforts for this purpose can stay with us, and those who feel they are not, then we will see how we can continue to be friends. [end recording]

DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO REFINANCE FOREIGN DEBT

FL221332 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Jul 85

[Text] It has been reported in Paris that 10 developed industrialized countries' governments considered it necessary to refinance or reschedule Cuba's foreign debt between January and December of this year. Representatives from the Governments of Cuba, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Italy, Japan, Spain, Sweden, and the UK held a meeting on 18 July to discuss the matter.

CASTRO SENDS MESSAGE TO UN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

PA212350 Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 17 Jul 85 p 3

[Message from President Fidel Castro Ruz to the UN Decade for Women Conference in Nairobi, Kenya -- date not given]

[Text] The international community has welcomed the proclamation of the UN Decade for Women with much expectation and great hopes. Its goals represent the thrist for justice of not only millions of women, but also of humankind because of the significance of women and the decisive role that women must play in the future of humankind.

Cuba is examining and evaluating these goals with the satisfaction of having dedicated, as befits a socialist country, many efforts in that direction. This is made evident by the economic and social achievements that have continued to improve, adding honor to the situation of women in our country. This is a legitimate fruit of the work, talent, and awareness of our people.

Loyal to the ideals that support the noble objectives of equality, development, and peace for women, the Cuban delegation at this conference is fully aware of its obligations of solidarity and sisterhood, especially toward the women from many countries who, unfortunately, cannot say at this forum that their human, social, and civic conditions have improved during this decade.

We would not be fulfilling our obligation if we were to ignore the economic, political, and social situation in the nations where women endure, together with men, the consequences of colonial and neocolonial exploitation.

Such egoism cannot be expected from Cuba anywhere, especially not at an event like this one taking place in Kenya, on the African continent. We belong to the Third World because we, like the other Latin American, Caribbean, African, and Asian countries, endured the colonial yoke of the European nations for centuries and for more than half of the present century we have endured the neocolonial oppression of U.S. imperialism.

Like all Third World countries, our natural wealth was sacked, the energy of our men and women was squeezed to make the metropolis wealthy and to pay, with our sweat and blood, for the industrial development that turned them into rich capitalist countries with advanced technology and abundant financial resources.

As a result of the march of history and our people's struggle, most of the former colonies, following the emergence of socialism and its victory over fascism, have already secured their independence. However, the emerging nations were left with a heavy burden of backwardness, illiteracy, and subhuman standards of living. In most cases, the former colonies remained economically dependent on the former metropolis and the new transnationals.

What is the dramatic situation of women in Third World countries? What is the situation of their children, their husbands, their parents, and their brothers?

In many parts of Africa, millions of human beings punished by natural disaster such as drought and the social disgrace of underdevelopment either die of hunger or live in heart-breaking conditions of poverty, a lack of culture, insanitation, and unimaginable misery. Without being dramatic, it can be stated that a lack of food, housing, schools, hospitals, and jobs affect the majority of the 4 billion people in the Third World.

For women, the situation is even worse because in addition to the tragedy of the entire family there is discrimination against women. They are the victims of old traditions and prejudices. They are deprived of their rights and often subjected to double work: that in their homes and that in the workplace where they earn a salary which is usually inferior to that of men. Some don't find work and are the victims of prostitution.

An evaluation of these 10 years forces us to sadly verify the suffering and the abuses that millions of women have endured and still endure. However, the growing participation and leading role played by women in the liberation struggles and in the civic and democratic conflicts in our nations cannot be ignored or underestimated. The women of South Africa, Namibia and Angola; the Saharan women fighters; the fighting Palestine, Salvadoran, and Nicaraguan women; the fighting women in Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay; and the fighting British women who defend peace and who have for years surrounded the U.S. rocket base in Greenham Commons with arms are an honor to women and deserve the greatest respect.

It is an undeniable fact that the stagnation and deterioration if not the absolute regression in the condition of women in most of the Third World countries, among them mothers, workers, citizens and young women, is basically determined by a persistent and increasingly unjust system of international economic relations based on an unequal exchange which widens the gap between the opulence of a handful of highly industrialized capitalist states and the poverty of the underdeveloped world.

These relations, based on plundering, arbitrariness, and humiliation, have placed an unbearable burden on the economy of underdeveloped countries and the enormous, unpayable, and uncollectable foreign debt acquired with the international capitalist banking system which reaches the colossal sum of $900 billion. Many countries have lost their sovereignty because of the draconian measures imposed by the IMF which is demanding from the people the payment of the debt and interests they did not contract, and from which they absolutely have not obtained any benefit.

Although made on sophisticated and subtle occasions, the historical demand for justice for women, who have been subjected to discrimination and brutal abuses, more than illustrates the hypocrisy of some champions of human rights who seem to ignore that in most of the so-called Western democracies the most fundamental right, which is the right to life, is not respected in societies in which medical and hospital attention is a privilege of economic sectors above the poverty level and in which the right to work, education, culture, and real participation in the political and social processes are not guaranteed, and in which women are the victims of repression and torture, national and racial oppression, and exploitation and plunderage.

In this struggle for survival, peace, and equality, Third World women can count on the solidarity of women from developed capitalist countries which, despite having a comparatively high standard of living, are also subjected to humiliating discriminatory treatment. They are the first to join the ranks of the unemployed and feel the anguish as the threat of war becomes more imminent with the manufacture of more deadly weapons that are going to be placed above our planet, in space, and on which enormous resources are being wasted.

It would only take one-fifth, one-tenth of those resources to cancel the foreign debt of the underdeveloped countries and give them the financial aid necessary for their economic and social development. It would also contribute to palliating the economic crisis and unemployment among the millions of workers in Europe and North America.

In their demand to stop the arms race; to reduce military expenditures so these funds can be used to cancel the foreign debt, and aid in the development of the Third World and in better living conditions for everyone; and to remove the danger of a nuclear war and consolidate peace, the women of the Third World and of the developed capitalist and socialist countries will find a common banner of full equality for women.

It is the struggle to have 4 billion human beings break away from poverty and backwardness and, above all, for the annulment of the Third World countries' foreign debt and the establishment of a new international economic order approved by the United Nations which will put an end to the unequal exchange, protectionism, and commercial, financial, and monetary policies that seek to make the inequalities eternal by making the rich richer and the poor poorer. The doors of a new century are opening today to women from throughout the world, and of all races, creeds, and social conditions who should face, in a climate of peace, international cooperation, social justice, welfare, and progress for all peoples, the real possibility of contributing to making a more just and brotherly world worthy of humankind for themselves and their countries. I am deeply convinced that this is an invincible cause.

Once more, receive the testimony of my respect and admiration.

[signed] Fedel Castro Ruz

Espin Addresses Conference

FL190325 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] The UN Conference on the Decade of Women being held in Nairobi, Kenya, today continued its sessions on its fourth day.

Cuban leader Vilma Espin addressed today's session and said: There cannot be changes in the condition of women in the midst of constant aggressions aimed to prevent countries from exercising their basic rights. The Federation of Cuban Women's president reiterated that the women's situation is unavoidably linked to their country's situation. How can we talk about women's rights if we do not know the political, economic, and social realities of today's world, asked the head of the Cuban delegation.

Talking about the women's decade, Vilma Espin said it had contributed to increase, at the international level, awareness of women's problems and mentioned the approval of important documents such as the agreement on the elimination of all forms of women's discrimination, which sum up the essence of women's fairest aspirations. This shows that joint efforts and goodwill allow progress, said the Cuban leader.

Vilma Espin asserted that we are still far from reaching the decade's three basic objectives: equality, development, and peace. She pointed out that the analysis of women's situation cannot be considered aside from the general problems affecting their countries. Therefore, she considered it necessary to understand the causes which keep them behind, which make them and their children victims of wars and of an unprecedented economic crisis.

Confronted by this painful reality, it is impossible to give up the right to analyze with objectivity in this meeting the causes which have not allowed the achievement of the goals of the Decade of Women, she said. Later, she referred to the difficult living conditions of African women, victims of apartheid, famine, drought, and underdevelopment.

U.S. TRYING 'TO SABOTAGE' UN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

PA221853 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 85

["World Events" commentary]

[Text] Under UN sponsorship the most important women's event in [words indistinct] taking place in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya. The participants at the meeting are analyzing achievements in obtaining women's equality [words indistinct]. Women from all over the world are meeting in Nairobi to discuss the [words indistinct] obstacles in their respective countries that prevent them from advancing to the achievement of their full rights as human beings.

On presenting their problems, the Third World women logically place in the chair of the accused imperialism and the colonialists, mainly the United States and its gendarmes in Africa and the Middle East: South Africa and Israel. That is why the U.S. Government is trying to sabotage the Nairobi conference. That is why it attacks the specialized UN agencies, accusing them of becoming politicized. The United States abandoned UNESCO with that excuse, and now it is using the same argument in its attempt to threaten the delegates to the women's conference and to prevent the discussion in that forum of issues that point directly to Washington as the main enemy of the peoples.

The United States does not want talk about discrimination, racism, apartheid, or the establishment of a new international economic order. It does not want any discussion of the arms buildup, decolonization, or the hunger, misery, and suffering those ills bring to underdeveloped countries.

The U.S. imperialists have exerted many pressures in their attempts to silence or at least manipulate the denunciations they imagine will be made at the UN Decade of Women conference. These pressures ranged from attempts to economically blockade the host country to threats against various Third World countries not to bring up in the meeting the ills that imperialism produces as a result of its policy toward developing countries. One of the most recent tricks by Washington was its attempt to have resolutions approved by consensus rather than by vote, as is established. That maneuver, which was presented through Canada, was totally rejected because it would be tacitly equivalent to giving the imperialists the right to a veto.

The United States has been complaining lately that it lacks influence in the United Nations and its specialized institutions. According to President Ronald Reagan, this international organization is hostile and alien to U.S. interests. Other U.S. officials argue that the ideology of the Third World prevails in the United Nations and that it has a markedly anti-West character.

It is true that the underdeveloped countries are a majority in the United Nations, and they logically reflect, in accordance with their positions, the realities of today's world. However, the essence of the problem is not that those countries conspire against the United States but that the Washington government does not support the UN objectives and tasks and that it ignores and opposes the aspirations of the majority of the members of that organization.

The United States is indifferent to the decolonization and economic development of the Third World. It did not sign the UN Law of the Sea which proclaimed that mineral resources on the bottom of the sea belong to humankind. It supports all repressive and dictatorial regimes. It threatens and attacks peoples who achieve their full liberation, and it blocks all initiatives for detente and disarmament. Now it is trying to halt the aspirations for the full liberation of women. This new U.S. effort will certainly end in another failure.

BARBADOS

ST JOHN LEAVES FOR UK FOR TALKS WITH THATCHER

FL191617 Bridgetown CANA in English 1307 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, July 19, CANA -- Barbados Prime Minister Bernard St John leaves here today for an official visit to Britain, where he will have talks with his counterpart, Margaret Thatcher, and sign a 25 million dollar (U.S.) loan agreement with a bank. St John, on his first overseas trip since taking over as prime minister last March 11, is heading a delegation that includes Tourism Minister Aaron Truss as well as senior officials of the Board of Tourism and Central Bank. An official statement said St John is expected to pay a courtesy call to Queen Elizabeth II on July 25 and hold talks with Mrs Thatcher on August 1. The agenda for the meeting with Mrs Thatcher was not disclosed.

The prime minister is down to address leading members of the British financial and business community and sign an agreement with the Country Bank as agent for a 25 million dollar (U.S.) syndicated loan. The loan is being provided by a syndicate of banks led by Country Bank Limited, a subsidiary of National Westminster Bank. The loan will be for seven years with a four-year grace period. The proposed loan will support government's development programme over the remainder of the 1983-88 plan period. This programme includes the development of an access road to the island's lone cement plant, the establishment of fishing harbours in and outside of Bridgetown, and the construction of a gas bottling plant. The loan will also boost the nation's foreign exchange reserves which serve as a buffer against contingencies, the statement said.

This is the third loan syndication on the London capital market which the Barbados Government has undertaken since 1977. The first syndication was for 10 million U.S. dollars in 1978 with a two year grace period, and the second for 30 million U.S. dollars in 1981 with a four-year grace period. Barbados also borrowed in the Japanese capital market in February this year by making a private bond placement of five billion Japanese yen or approximately U.S. 9.25 million dollars.

The government statement said that given the poor performance of the UK market this year, the prime minister would add his weight as official spokesperson to a promotional tourism team led by Truss, who will be attempting through a wide range of activities to reverse this trend. The prime minister will attend receptions and dinners for leaders in the British and Irish communities and the travel trade and press.

DOMINICA

CHARLES APPOINTS GOVERNMENT'S FIFTH SENATOR

FL221704 Bridgetown CANA in English 1605 GMT 22 Jul 85

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, July 22, CANA -- A member of Dominica's Electoral Commission, Eardley Castro, was today named the fifth government senator in the new parliament. Last week Prime Minister Eugenia Charles announced the names of her Freedom Party's other senators. The Dominica Constitution provides for nine senators to be appointed to parliament, five of whom must be appointed by the government. The opposition has already named its four senators.

Chairman of the Electoral Commission Joffre Harris told CANA today that the present commission will be automatically dissolved following the first session of parliament.

HAITI

REFERENDUM ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS BEGINS

PA230209 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2230 GMT 22 Jul 85

[By S.S. Beaulieu]

[Text] Port au Prince, 22 Jul (DPA) -- The referendum on amendments to the Constitution and the law on political parties began at 0600 today in Haiti, under strong security measures. It is almost certain that the position of President for Life Jean-Claude Duvalier will be strengthened. The government has temporarily taken over trucks and buses to transport the people to the polls. The ballots are white, small and they carry the following inscription:

"Republic of Haiti, Referendum 22 July 1985.

"You are all invited to decide through the referendum on the following amendments to the 1983 Constitution and the law on political parties:

"A. President for life with the right to name a successor
"B. The creation of the post of prime minister
"C. The government's control of the parliament
"D. (The first words garbled and then follows:) ...to facilitate the development of political pluralism."

The ballot also has the following question: Do you approve the new political system? Some ballots have yes after the question, and others no. The voter chooses the one he prefers and then he drops it in one of the boxes placed on the voting table, which are guarded by three officials and two guards. Anyone at the voting place can see into what box the voter drops the ballot which says yes or no.

The voting was almost over at noon and no one doubts the outcome. Everyone knows that an overwhelming majority of yes will be announced, but not the exact percentage. The authorities expect that 2 million people will vote out of a population of 2 million. The ballots are in French, although many Haitians speak Creole. Besides, 85 percent of the people are illiterate. Many say they do not know what they are voting for. The peasants are enjoying themselves due to the referendum because of the opportunity to take a trip to the city and have free drinks of a white rum called Clarin or other refreshments. Those who have the means are taking advantage of the holiday to go to the beaches or "on business" to Florida. Although some political leaders have asked the people to vote against the referendum, there is absolute tranquillity in the country. The voting polls will close at 1800, but no one shows any interest in the official result, because they all know it will be a smashing yes.

JAMAICA

SEAGA, FRANCE'S FABIUS DISCUSS AREA ISSUES

AU221241 Paris AFP in English 1224 GMT 22 Jul 85

[Text] Paris, July 22 (AFP) -- Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga had a meeting today with French Premier Laurent Fabius, during which they discussed the political and economic situation in Central America and the Caribbean. They also discussed the austerity measures taken by the Jamaican Government and its accords with the International Monetary Fund and the Paris Club, the group of Western nations that are owed billions of dollars by the Third World.

FOREIGN BANKS TO RESCHEDULE DEBT PAYMENTS

FL221416 Bridgetown CANA in English 2057 GMT 20 Jul 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, July 20, CANA -- Jamaica has reached agreement with foreign commercial banks to reschedule U.S. 96 million dollars of debt repayments for this financial year, Prime Minister Edward Seaga has announced here. Seaga, along with Central Bank Governor Horace Barber, had been holding discussions in Paris with the banks this week.

The new agreement provides for 100 per cent rescheduling principal payment on debts amounting to U.S. 190 million dollars during the financial years 1985 to 1987, the official news agency JAMPRESS said. In addition, U.S. 197 million dollars of debt falling due April 1, 1987 to March 31, 1990, will be consolidated into one loan repayable in ten equal quarterly installments with interest determined on a weighted average basis. This allows the rescheduling of all the remaining commercial bank debts which will mature after this financial year to be negotiated at a later stage, the agency added. Seaga said the government's outstanding debts to the commercial banks total approximately U.S. 400 million dollars, and would have been due for repayment over the next five years.

Paris Club Debt Rescheduled

FL222026 Bridgetown CANA in English 1910 GMT 22 Jul 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, July 22, CANA -- Jamaica has successfully negotiated another debt rescheduling -- U.S. 70.4 million dollars owed to the Paris Club of Western creditors. According to the national news agency, JAMPRESS, Prime Minister Edward Seaga, who headed a Jamaican team to the French capital, made the announcement over the weekend. The terms include 100 per cent refinancing of maturities and 50 per cent of interest falling due between April 1 this year to March 31 next year. Repayment will be made in 12 equal semi-annual installments commencing on March 21, 1990 and ending September 30, 1995, the agency said. The terms are also expected to provide a framework for negotiations on a bilateral basis, with each member country to settle the details as well as with non-Paris Club countries with outstanding debts falling due over the same period, JAMPRESS said. The amount of debt relief with respect to non-Paris Club members is U.S. 26.5 million dollars.

Overseas commercial banks on Friday agreed to re-schedule U.S. 96.5 million dollars for the current financial year which begins April 1.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CHAMBERS IN SEOUL, MEETS WITH ROK PRESIDENT

FL201553 Bridgetown CANA in English 1431 GMT 20 Jul 85

[Text] Seoul, July 20, CANA-REUTER -- Prime Minister George Chambers of Trinidad and Tobago conferred with South Korean President Chun Tu-hwan today on improving ties between the two countries, a presidential spokesman said. Details of the talks were not given, but Foreign Ministry officials have said the discussions were expected to focus on setting up diplomatic ties and on economic cooperation. Trinidad and Tobago has no diplomatic relations with either South or North Korea, which compete for support from the Third World. Chambers, who arrived in South Korea yesterday for a six-day visit, is due to tour the truce village of Panmunjom bordering the north and south later today.

Trade between South Korea and Trinidad and Tobago totalled about 10 million dollars last year.

NATION TO ASSUME ACP CHAIRMANSHIP 1 AUGUST

FL201614 Bridgetown CANA in English 1536 GMT 20 Jul 85

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, July 20, CANA -- Suriname is to assume the chairmanship of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) bloc of countries from August 1, 1985 to February 1, 1986, it has been officially announced here. Suriname's Trade and Industry Minister Imro Fong Poen said that Paramaribo was elected to the post during a recent meeting in Brussels between the ACP and the European Economic Community (EEC). The two blocs are linked under the Lome Trade and Aid Convention.

Speaking at a press conference here, the minister said he saw the election of Suriname to ACP chairmanship as a recognition of the country's role in South-South cooperation and as support for Suriname from the Caribbean region and the entire ACP group. Grenada, which had also been a candidate for the post, withdrew, he said.

MINISTER TO OPEN CONSULATE IN FRENCH GUIANA

FL200414 Bridetown CANA in English 2252 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, July 19, CANA -- Foreign Minister Tjon Kei Sim flew to neighbouring French Guiana yesterday to open a consulate-general there, the Foreign Ministry said. Officials said the consulate would serve the needs of an increasing number of Surinamers who are going to Cayenne to work or buy goods in scarce supply here.

VIGILANCE INCREASED OVER FOREIGN CURRENCY

FL221451 Bridgetown CANA in English 1900 GMT 20 Jul 85

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, July 20, CANA -- The Suriname authorities have taken another step to increase vigilance over foreign currency transactions here. The Foreign Exchange Office at the Zanderij International Airport here, which used to be operated by the Hakrin Bank, has been taken over by the Central Bank of Suriname.

Suriname's Finance Minister Norman Kleine said the move was not a reflection of the inefficiency on the part of the Hakrin Bank, but that the government wanted a better insight into foreign exchange in flows via the airport.

Central Bank President Henk Goedschalk called the move an important step, and said foreign exchange offices will soon be set up in the border towns of Nickerie and Albina. Nickerie shares borders with Guyana, and Albina with French Guiana.

NEW CONSTITUTION TO BE DRAFTED BY END OF 1986

FL201656 Bridgetown CANA in English 1429 GMT 20 Jul 85

[Excerpt] Paramaribo, Suriname, July 20, CANA -- A new draft constitution for Suriname should be ready by the end of next year, according to Ulric Aron, president of the National Assembly, which is producing the document. Aron's announcement came during a meeting of the Assembly when eight new members were drafted into the body.

A time schedule will be worked out in conjunction with a Constitutional Affairs Committee, which is to be set up shortly, to ensure that the draft will be ready on schedule by the end of 1986, according to Aron. He said that the body will have to work towards the realization of democratic structures of a permanent nature, the referential framework for which was formulated by the government of Prime Minister Willem Udenhout in December 1984.

BAUXITE PRODUCTION REDUCED BY LABOR DISPUTE

FL200423 Bridgetown CANA in English 1951 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] Caracas, July 19, CANA-REUTER -- A go-slow by wokers at the Billiton Mij Suriname N.V. Bauxite Mining Company, which today entered its fifth day, has reduced bauxite production and affected the transport of alumina, the official SURINAME NEWS AGENCY (SNA) said. SNA gave no further details in its telexed dispatch to REUTER in Caracas.

Billiton operates the two million tonnes per year Onverwacht bauxite mine in Suriname and owns a 45 percent share in the country's lone alumina refinery, which is operated by the Suriname Aluminium Company (Suralco), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Aluminium Company of America (Alcoa).

The Billiton employees are demanding an unspecified pay rise in their next two-year labour agreement, but the company has said that operation losses and low international bauxite prices make it impossible to offer extra money. Several senior staff at Billiton, a member of the Royal Dutch Shell group, have already accepted a 15 percent pay cut. Suralco agreed on a two-year wage freeze with its own employees last April.

OPPOSITION LEADER CALLS FOR POLITICAL OVERHAUL

FL192208 Bridgetown CANA in English 1939 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] Caracas, July 19, CANA-REUTER -- A Suriname exile leader today called for elections early in 1987 and the restoration of human rights in the former Dutch colony. Emile Winjntuin, 61, who was president of the Surinamese parliament for seven years, said the five-year term of military leader Desi Bouterse had been a complete failure. There has been a popular rejection of Bouterse's anti-democratic system, Wijntuin said.

A strike by bauxite workers last year forced Bouterse to promise a gradual return to democracy, but this week the workers again took industrial action in support of pay demands. Bouterse, also facing economic pressure from the Hague, last year announced a 27-month transition towards democracy which started in January.

But Winjntuin, leader of the Suriname Democratic Movement, said the period should be reduced to one year from next January and a new constitution should be drawn up as a prelude to presidential elections early in 1987.

Winjntuin, who was abroad when 15 opposition leaders were murdered in Paramaribo in December 1982, has since lived in Curacao.

GUYANA

COOPERATION AGREEMENTS TO BE SIGNED WITH ROMANIA

FL221440 Bridgetown CANA in English 1735 GMT 20 Jul 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, July 20, CANA -- Romania is to sign agreements with Guyana shortly under which bilateral functional cooperation will be increased, with emphasis on training Guyanese in civil aviation, a spokesman for the state-run Guyana Airways Corporation (GAC) said today. Training and aircraft personnel from the Soviet bloc state will come to Guyana later this year to carry out programmes for civilian as well as Army pilots, the official said.

Technical personnel from the Department of Civil Aviation, the Guyana Defense Force, and the GAC are currently studying proposals first discussed in Romania in 1984 and broadly agreed upon earlier this year when a top level government team from Guyana visited the East European country with which Georgetown has been steadily developing closer ties.

If all goes smoothly, as expected, documents to formalise agreements reached should be signed in Georgetown between a Romanian team now in the country, headed by that country's Deputy Minister of Transport Major General Dumitru Nicolae Puiu, and a government team to be led by Vice-President Hamilton Green, the official said. Romania has also pledged to supply Gunana with an aircraft before year-end, while Guyana would supply bauxite as payment, the official said. The Guyana Airways Corporation corrently has on lease a Tupulev 154-B from Tarom Airlines of Romania.

URUGUAY

BILATEAL TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH CUBA

PY191900 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] Uruguay and Cuba have signed a bilateral agreement, the first since they broke off relations on 6 September 1964. According to unofficial sources, the Uruguayan Foreign Trade General Director Isidoro Vara, head of the delegation, signed the agreement at around 0300 GMT.

Trade relations between the two countries were resumed on 9 April 1985. The Uruguayan delegation is made up of representatives of 27 commerce companies, who traveled to Cuba a few days ago.

FERREIRA ALDUNATE NAMED PRESIDENT OF MOVEMENT

PY190120 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Excerpt] Wilson Ferreira Aldunate has been appointed president of the National Executive Board of the Movement for the Fatherland. This political organization held a meeting in Trinidad. At the conclusion of the meeting Ferreira Aldunate delivered a speech.